

Wool Grower

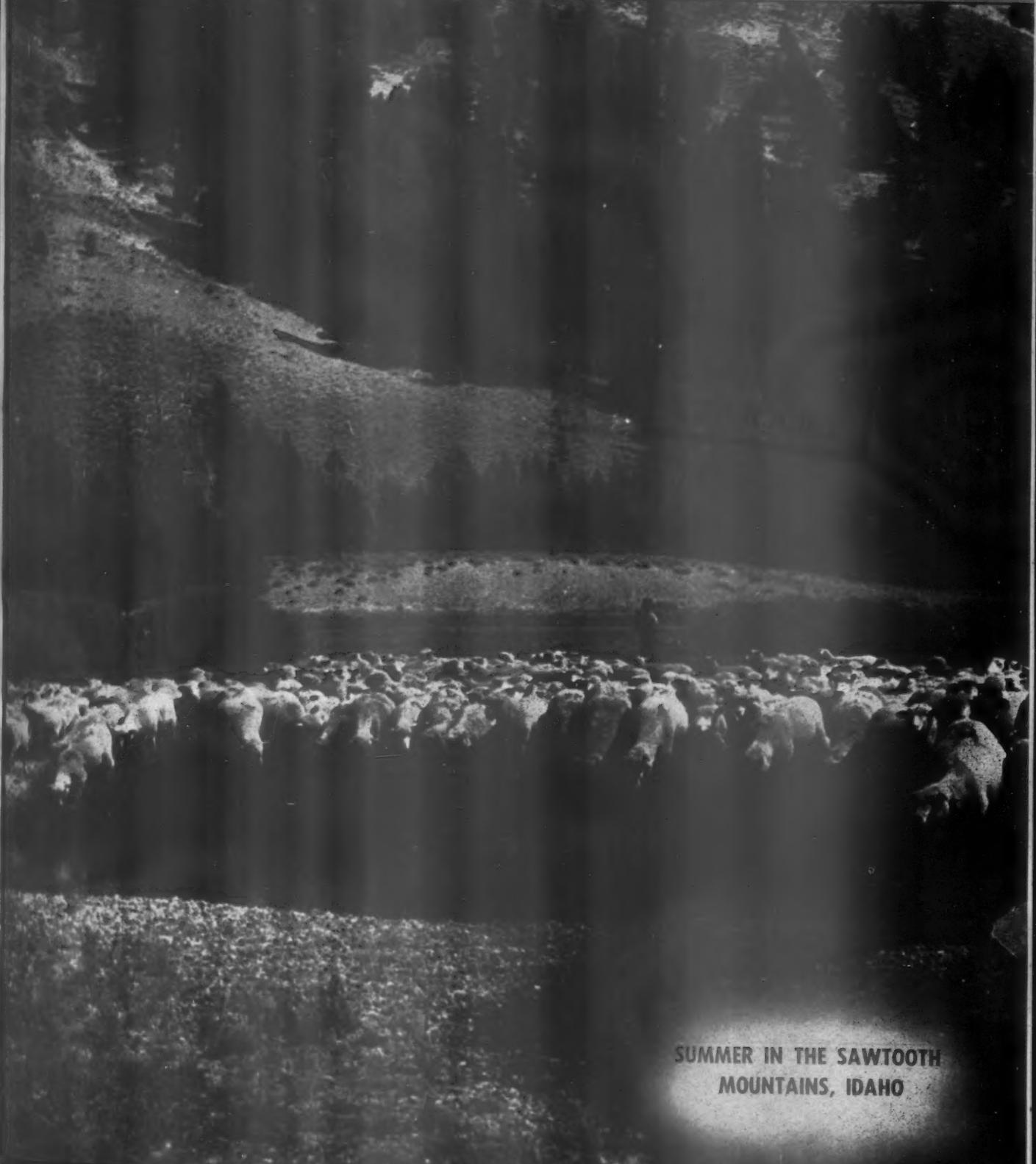
THE NATIONAL

Wool Grower

VOLUME XXXVI

NUMBER 6

JUNE, 1946



SUMMER IN THE SAWTOOTH
MOUNTAINS, IDAHO

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FOR OVER 60 YEARS

THE

DENVER UNION STOCK YARDS

has grown to new heights in public esteem and patronage—There is a reason—The high integrity and character of the men working on the Market—for you—has been one outstanding reason.

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There will be no change in this policy:

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Our imported Suffolks, the pick of the best lambs in England, arrived at the ranch April 16th. You will like their size and quality! Having imported the first Suffolks into the U. S. (for the University of Idaho, August, 1919) we have always appreciated this great breed.

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We will have several choice lots of Suffolk-Hamp Cross Bred Yearlings for the National Ram Sale.

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**ONE OF THE OUTSTANDING FLOCKS IN
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Perdew's Tenderfoot at Bar X	3.00

For Sale by
NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

509 Pacific National Life Building

Salt Lake City 1, Utah

THE COVER

The Sawtooth Mountains of Idaho have been the source of many of the Wool Growers' most attractive covers, in our opinion. The one this month was photographed by Mrs. T. Clyde Bacon (wife of Vice President Bacon of Twin Falls, Idaho). It shows the Bacon flock on Smiley Creek.

The Cutting Chute

Tribute to W. P. Wing

At a very impressive ceremony on the first day of the California Ram Sale at Galt, May 13, 1946, Mr. W. P. Wing, Secretary of the California Wool Growers Association, was presented with war bonds in the amount of \$4500 and also a merchandise order for \$2,000 for a new automobile with compliments of his friends, the sheepmen, and those interested in sheep and wool in the western states. This tribute was paid in appreciation of twenty-six years of "dynamic" service as secretary of the California Wool Growers Association.

Mr. Fred A. Ellwood, former president of the California Wool Growers Association and honorary president of the National Wool Growers Association, made the presentation in a very impressive manner, recounting the untiring efforts of the man, his ability and loyalty to the association and his sincere friendship among the growers. Mrs. Wing, who was also present, was given a gorgeous bouquet of roses. The entire ceremony was well received by about 800 sheepmen and their wives attending the ram sale.

Medal for Thomas E. Wilson

"The Medal of Merit," highest honor award to civilians in war service, was given Thomas E. Wilson by President Truman, with Secretary Anderson making the presentation on May 22, this year. As assistant coordinator of the Civilian Defense in Chicago, Mr. Wilson, who is chairman of the Board of Wilson and Company, planned and directed a local fat salvage campaign within six weeks after Pearl Harbor. The Chicago drive provided an incentive for the national fat salvage program originally carried out by the War Production Board, now directed by the Department of Agriculture. In 1945 several hundred million pounds of salvage fat was contributed by American housewives to the war effort.

P. M. A. Committee

The committees which assist the Production and Marketing Administration in each state, have received a new name. In the future, they will be known as the State P.M.A. Committees, instead of the State Agricultural Conservation Committees.

Wight Retires as Tuberculosis Chief

Dr. Alexander E. Wight, veterinarian of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Agricultural Research Administration, U.S.D.A., has retired at the age of 70 after 47 years of continuous service in that bureau. For the last 18 years, he directed the extensive and highly successful federal and state campaign to eradicate bovine tuberculosis. His successor has not yet been appointed.

The National Wool Grower

Wells Heads B.A.E.

O. V. Wells was selected on May 16, 1946, by Secretary Anderson to be chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. He succeeds Howard R. Tolley, who recently resigned to become chief economist and director of the Division of Economics and Marketing of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. Except for nine months spent at Harvard University in 1931-32 doing graduate work in general economics, Mr. Wells has been with the Department of Agriculture continuously since January, 1929. He is a native of Mississippi and 43 years old.

A Fine Memorial

As a memorial to her husband, former member of the Future Farmers of America, who died as a result of illness contracted in the war, Mrs. Clarence R. Wilsey has turned his top quality Hampshire flock of 30 registered ewes and 27 purebred lambs over to the Shasta Union High School in Redding, California, for the F.F.A.

Inflation In Farm Land Prices

On the basis of March 1, 1946, figures from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S.D.A., average farm land prices in the United States are now up 71 per cent of the pre-World War II 1935-39 average. This increase compares with a 70 per cent rise from the pre-World War I 1912-14 average to the 1920 inflation peak which followed. More than one-quarter of the increase during the present period of inflation has occurred during the past year, and the inflationary situation has become especially pronounced during recent months, according to C. W. Bailey, Vice President of the American Bankers Association, residing at Clarksville, Tennessee. Farm land prices have more than doubled in Kentucky, Tennessee, Colorado, Indiana, North and South Carolina, and Wyoming, since the beginning of World War II; while in Montana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Georgia, Ohio, and Michigan, average values have nearly doubled. The increasing number of farms resold after a limited period of ownership indicates speculation in farm land.

Status of Federal Land Banks

All but one of the twelve federal land banks of the country have repaid the government-owned capital and paid-in surplus, according to I. W. Duggan, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration, (May 20, 1946). The original plan of the Federal land bank system that the capital stock of the banks should be owned primarily by the national farm loan associations, which are owned by their members, was held back during the depression when many farm loans had to be refinanced. However, at the present time, of \$314,000,000 which the government has made available to the banks, all but \$76,000,000 has been returned. Capital stock of the 12 Federal land banks totaled \$106,290,708 as of May 1, 1946, of which \$64,803,743 was owned by the national farm loan associations. The government-owned capital was \$39,957,850, all of which is in the Federal Land Bank of St. Paul.

National Safety Week

July 21-27 has been designated National Farm Safety Week by President Truman. Apparently the farm isn't the safest place in the world to be. During 1945 there were

CORRIEDALES

200 YEARLING RAMS

Many of them sired by the \$2025 Imported E-2, highest selling ram in America last year; a few by that good Imported D-274.

150 GOOD REGISTERED EWES

With a very nice crop of lambs at side

HAMPSHIRES

20 YEARLING RAMS

Some Stud prospects among them

Hope to have a pen of 5 registered Hampshire rams and a pen of 5 registered Corriedale rams at this year's National Ram Sale.

POLO RANCH

MALCOLM MONCREIFFE
Big Horn, Wyoming

25TH ANNUAL

IDAHO STATE RAM SALE

AUGUST 7TH, 1946

FILER, IDAHO

STUD RAMS—RANGE RAMS

All entries carefully selected from the top rams of consignor's flocks.
This outstanding offering represents the best.

HAMPSHIRE, SUFFOLKS, SUFFOLK-HAMPSHIRE

Quality and Quantity Assured

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IDAHO

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Affiliated Organizations

Arizona Wool Growers Association

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H. B. Embach, Secretary

California Wool Growers Association

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W. P. Wing, Secretary

Colorado Wool Growers Association

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A. E. Lawson, Secretary

Western South Dakota Sheep Growers Association

Rapid City
John Widdoss, President
H. J. Devereaux, Secretary

Wyoming Wool Growers Association

McKinley
John A. Reed, President
J. B. Wilson, Secretary

6,500 deaths from accidents in farm homes in comparison to 6,000 in 1944, and there were 950,000 non-fatal injuries. Farm work accidents killed 4,500, including 900 motor vehicle fatalities and 300,000 were injured. Farm work deaths were 28 per cent of the nation's occupational death totals, more than in any of the other seven major industrial groups.

Coon, New Secretary of Western Wool Storage Company

Mr. M. D. Fell, President of the Western Wool Storage Company of Portland, Oregon, announced the election of James M. Coon, to the office of secretary of the company and general manager of its storage, grading and marketing operations on May 22. Mr. Coon succeeds the late C. L. Weddell, who had held this position for the past 15 years. Mr. Coon comes from an old sheep grazing family in Idaho. A graduate of the Oregon State College, he had his first experience in the marketing of wool with the Pacific Wool Growers. Later he spent 14 years in Washington, D. C., with the Farm Credit Administration and the Marketing Division of the Department of Agriculture, where he was chief of the Wool Division. For the past three years he has been assistant manager of the Pacific Wool Growers.

Wyoming Wool Clips Sampled For Shrinkage

Eight Wyoming wool clips, representing 30,000 wool fleeces, have been sampled for shrinkage determination by the new mechanical coring method this spring, according to Alexander Johnston, wool technologist in the University of Wyoming. Johnston reported also that five other growers had requested that their clips be sampled with the mechanical coring machine. The sampling is done by the University and the samples are then sent by the growers to a commercial laboratory for shrinkage determination.

F. A. O. Conference In Washington

Discussion opened in Washington on May 20, 1946, by the Food and Agricultural Organization of United Nations on the present disturbing food situation. The establishment of an international board with authority to allocate current food supplies during the existence of the famine emergency has been proposed by the United States.

Pacific International Wool Show

October 5-12, 1946, are the dates set for the Pacific International Livestock Exposition at Portland, Oregon, and the Pacific Wool Growers are again sponsoring a wool show to be held at the same time and place. Information regarding regulations and plans may be obtained by writing Pacific Wool Growers, 734 N. W. 14th Avenue, Portland, Oregon.

Slight Improvement In Farm Labor

Farms are finding it a little less difficult to secure labor, according to the Department of Agriculture Extension Service. During the first quarter of 1946, only 314,642,000 placements were made at 9,000 extension farm labor offices, which is a decrease of 132,827 from the 447,469 farm labor placements made by the same offices during the first quarter of 1945. These figures indicate that farmers are less dependent on labor recruiting agencies than formerly.

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VOL. XXXVI

NUMBER 6

JUNE, 1946

509 Pacific National Life Building
Salt Lake City 1, Utah

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the *National Wool Grower*. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members \$5.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1102, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

The National Wool Grower

Industry Problems

Wool Legislation

On June 11, Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, announced that hearings on the proposals for wool legislation would open on June 18.

It is expected that Senator O'Mahoney (Wyoming) will file the report of his Special Committee to Investigate the Production, Transportation and Marketing of Wool to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry sometime this week (May 27th). This will consist of the majority report and minority reports by Senators Robertson (Wyoming) and Walsh (Massachusetts).

There will be three proposals to consider before this Committee: Senator O'Mahoney's S. 2033; Senator Robertson's S. 1874, and the wool trade's amendment, not yet given a number, to be submitted by Senator Walsh. There will be testimony presented by other interested groups, particularly on sections 8, 9, and 10 of S. 2033, which have to do with the establishing of studies, research, standards, etc.

Without further reference to these sections of the bill, an analysis should be made of those features which immediately affect the economy of the wool grower.

First, it should be understood that representatives of the growers would prefer an increase in the tariff on foreign wool; second, an import quota would be more desirable than the bills proposed; third, Senator Robertson's bill, S. 1874, which would provide for the purchase of both domestic and foreign wool until 1956, with the domestic wool purchase from growers at a comparable price as of January 15, 1946, or the current comparable price, whichever is higher, would give a 10-year period of stability to the wool grower and would be desirable.

The situation at best is a difficult one. A very realistic approach must be made toward our problem. None of the above proposals have or will have the backing of the executive departments of government, the importance of which is readily recognizable. What the wool grower needs is stability, and Senator O'Mahoney's bill, S. 2033, gives that stability

plus the chance of passing Congress.

The chief difference between Senator O'Mahoney's bill and the amendment to be introduced by Senator Walsh is not a matter of principle, but a difference in the manner of payment. S. 2033 proposes a continuation of the present purchase program at the price paid by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the 1946 wools for four years before any reduction can be made in price. This bill also permits loans, support payments or other operations to assure returns to growers equal to the 1946 price level.

Senator Walsh's amendment changes the form of aid to grower to support payments per head of sheep in lieu of the purchase program. These support payments would be made to growers at shearing time on a per head basis and would be the difference in the "value of domestic wool plus reconversion costs of 10 per cent on the price of foreign wool in hand to the value of comparable grades of imported wool reduced to a grease basis." The term "value" for domestic wool would mean the comparable price or the price paid for the 1946 wools. The value of foreign wool would be the foreign price plus the duty. The wool trade's program does not provide for pulled wool. Pulled wool is included in S. 2033.

The purpose of the wool trade's amendment is, of course, to bring wool back on the speculative market, and as they say, "take the government out of business."

Very frankly, the object of your representatives is to stabilize the sheep industry, and we are willing to let Congress decide just how and in what manner this will be done. What we want is legislation that will take our industry out of its present predicament. Your opinion would be extremely helpful.

The Public Land Question

As a result of the House of Representatives' action on the Grazing Appropriation for 1947, (the Senate Appropriations Committee has not as yet marked up the bill) it can be readily seen that this public land question warrants careful consideration at this time.

After the defeat of Congressman Dworshak's (Idaho) efforts to increase the Grazing Service's appropriation to the amount paid in by the licensees, livestock operators should consider future policy and determine a course of action.

There is little doubt that the Grazing Service will become a part of the General Land Office under the present reorganization program, but this will not settle the temper of Congress nor the question of fees and administration.

A joint meeting of the executive committees of the National Wool Growers Association and the American National Livestock Association is scheduled for August 16 and 17 at Salt Lake City to discuss this question. It is the hope that many of our Senators and Congressmen will attend this meeting. Without doubt, constructive legislation will be necessary to settle the question.

Under present conditions, the present 50 per cent fund going to the states and counties must be given consideration. This is a question of whether or not this fund should be returned to the U. S. Treasury to offset the cost to the federal government of administration of the public lands.

The statement of Congressman Barrett (Wyoming) before the Committee on Public Lands gives the necessary historical background and foundation on which the discussion on public lands should be based. Although Congressman Barrett's statement was prepared specifically on H. R. 6017, "Granting to the State of Wyoming, 3,043, 555 acres of Section 15 Taylor Grazing lands in such state for the use and benefit of the University of Wyoming," it covers public lands in all of the states, both Section 15 and other lands, and his conclusions, which follow, are based on facts and could well apply to all public lands:

In conclusion it seems to me that the following points are fairly and clearly established beyond the question of a doubt:

That the original states retained all of the land within their borders.

That the writers of the Constitution determined that new states should be admitted on a free and equal basis with the original states.

That the public lands belong to the people and lands suitable for that purpose should be transferred to ownership as quickly as possible.

That the Congress reaffirmed that policy over a hundred years ago when it deposited 25 million dollars of the proceeds from the sales of public lands with the various states on the theory that it belonged to the people.

That during the nineteenth century Congress made extremely liberal grants of public lands to many of the states for internal improvements, such as roads, canals, river improvements and railroads.

That in practically all of the states, except in the West, all of the public lands, including the minerals thereunder, were passed to private ownership.

That generally speaking the Federal Government has retained the minerals under much of the land patented in the West and the income to the government from the minerals in Wyoming alone has paid for the purchases out of which came most of our public domain.

That the treaties of purchase reaffirmed the original policy that the states erected in the area granted should be admitted to the Union as sovereign states on a free and equal basis with other states.

That no reasonable man can contend that the public land states have obtained their full sovereignty when the Federal Government remains the landlord over more than half their areas.

That in its final analysis the question resolves itself, shall the western states remain forever largely the tenants of a federal landlord?

It seems to me that the conclusion is irresistible that the western states cannot possibly attain the rank of the other great sovereign states of the nation if they must be maintained by only a portion of their natural resources. Most certainly the people of the East and the South will accord to the western states the same opportunity to achieve full development as they enjoy. Indeed, by making the public land states strong, you strengthen the Union.

The Feed Situation

The present point of view expressed by many administration leaders and many so-called "good doers" of the East toward the feeding of grains to livestock not only for fattening purposes but for maintenance of breeding stock is a matter for serious consideration of the entire livestock industry.

So much is heard today of the inefficiency of grain when fed to livestock, at the outset it must be realized that not all grain fed to livestock is for the purpose of fattening animals for slaughter. In our western country, supplemental feeding is for maintenance of breeding stock. This point must be taken into consideration even before relief feeding of people in foreign countries. No one denies the need and desire of giving all assistance possible, but to destroy breeding herds would be disastrous from the standpoint of our own country a year or two hence. Consequently, it is absolutely essential that sufficient grain be made available for preservation of breeding stock.

Exception may also be taken to the statement that it takes 6 or 7 pounds

of grain to produce one pound of meat, particularly in the case of lamb. In the first place, the majority of lambs are fattened on the high ranges or pastures and go direct to slaughter without grain. Most of the feeder lambs weigh 60 to 65 pounds before they go into feed lots. There feeds such as hay, beet tops or beet pulp supplement the grain fed. Therefore, when the amount of grain fed is divided by the meat produced, the ratio is much less than 7 to 1, and the consumer gets complete protein in the place of starches and carbohydrates.

Again, secure your supplemental feed supply at the earliest opportunity.

Conference of Editors

Your Secretary had the privilege and the opportunity of being a guest of industries who obtain their raw materials from agriculture. The conference was sponsored by the American Agricultural Editors Association.

Our hosts for these meetings were the Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc.; General Foods, Inc.; National Biscuit Company; Standard Brands, Inc.; National Broadcasting Company; National Association of Manufacturers; and Lederle Laboratories.

At the meeting the first day, the question of grain for feed and foods came up. The famine problem was discussed at length and the need for supplying destitute countries with grain and the cutting down of livestock feeding because of an inefficient use of grain, as it was termed.

Your Secretary attempted to explain some of the problems involved in the feeding of grain to livestock for various purposes, and in the position taken, he was supported by many farm editors.

AUGUST MEETINGS

The regular midsummer meetings of the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association and the Board of Directors of the American Wool Council, Inc., will be held at the Hotel Utah, in Salt Lake City, August 18 and 19, 1946. The time of the sessions will be announced later.

A joint meeting of the executive committees of the American National Live Stock Association and the National Wool Growers Association to consider federal land grazing problems will also be held on August 16 and 17 in Salt Lake City.

It appeared that our hosts were not opposed to the livestock industry, but perhaps have not studied our particular angle to the problem. It is therefore apparent that our industry must make our story known to not only the people engaged in the use of our raw materials, but to as many consumers as possible.

J. M. J.

Let's Not Fumble the Ball

Statement by President Winder on Wool Legislation

THE wool situation has become quite complicated by the introduction of two proposals in addition to S-2033, which is the bill introduced by Senator O'Mahoney and endorsed by the Administration.

The proposal presented by Senator Robertson is practical and sound but does not appear to have Administration backing; however, if Congress approved this measure, the wool growers could very well get behind it and support it.

However, the minority report presented by Senator Walsh and endorsed by the wool trade is impractical, would be difficult to administer and would not do the job for the producers that is necessary. It appears to be a proposal from a quarter that is more interested in dealing in foreign wools than an effort to stabilize the wool business. To anyone that knows anything about sheep raising, the fact that the subsidy is to be paid on a per head basis and figured on an average fleece weight alone would rule it out. To begin with, it would be impossible to get accurate counts on the sheep for payment purposes, and the average fleece value would discriminate against the better producers and eliminate the incentive for quality production.

I believe that unless we can get a program that is satisfactory we should oppose any effort to sabotage our efforts. It seemed as though we had a program behind which all interests could unite. I sincerely hope that the introduction of this minority report will not prevent the enactment of some wool control bill that will give the necessary protection to the wool industry. Of course, the proper method would have been a tariff adjustment, but that is ruled out by the State Department, so let us get behind the next best program.

The National Wool Grower

Government Grain Policy

THE government price policy covering the marketing of grain now in the hands of producers, and grain to be harvested in 1946, was announced jointly on May 8 by the Office of Economic Stabilization, the Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Price Administration.

It provided for the following increases in grain price ceilings, effective May 13, 1946: Corn, 25 cents per bushel; wheat, 15 cents per bushel; oats, 5 cents per bushel; barley, 9 cents per bushel; rye, 10 cents per bushel; grain sorghum, 18 cents per hundred weight. Changes were also made in protein feed prices to bring them into proper relationship with the new grain prices. These increases are: Fish meal, \$10 per ton; fish scrap, \$7.50 per ton; tankage, \$7.50 per ton; meat scrap, \$10 per ton; corn germ meal, \$10 per ton; gluten feed and gluten meal \$14 per ton; hominy feed, brewers' dried grains, beet pulp, and mill-feeds, \$10 per ton; soybean meal, cottonseed meal, peanut meal, and linseed meal, \$14 per ton; and minor meals, \$10 per ton.

The 30-cent bonus on corn was terminated May 11 and the wheat bonus of 30 cents on May 25. The table gives the producer grain ceiling prices before and after the increase was granted and shows the April 15 parity price. The new ceilings are expected to continue through June 30, 1947.

PRODUCER GRAIN CEILING PRICES (Chicago basis, except grain sorghum, at Kansas City)

	Before Increase	Increase	April 15	
	increase in cents	in cents	parity	June 1947 price
Corn, bu.	\$1.19	.25	\$1.44	\$1.16
Wheat, bu.	1.815	.15	1.965	1.60
Oats, bu.	.78	.05	.83	.718
Barley, bu.	1.24	.09	1.33	1.11
Rye, bu.	1.46	.10	1.56	1.30

(scheduled June 1)

Grain sorghum,
etc. 2.49 .18 2.67 2.19

The Department of Agriculture is also taking 25 per cent of all this year's wheat delivered at the elevators after July 1. Under the order of May 15th, 50 per cent of all the wheat delivered at the elevators must be sold and the government will requisition half of that

sold or 25 per cent of the total amount delivered.

The ban on use of wheat in making alcoholic beverages will be continued until the summer of 1947, it is reported.

Other statements included in the announcement of the new grain policy are:

The feed grain situation, coupled with the need for grains for human consumption, point to (1) the need for adjusting downward the number of hogs raised, and (2) the need for marketing hogs at lighter weights, (225 pounds or less). To encourage marketing hogs at lighter weights the government agencies contemplate a reduction in price ceilings on heavy hogs, effective September 1, 1946.

* * * * *

Poultry producers are asked to help

prevent starvation abroad by culling during May and June at least one out of every seven birds in the nation's laying flocks compared to the one out of every nine birds culled in the same two months last year.

* * * * *

The aim in dairy production will be to maintain output as close as possible to the record levels of the past two years. There will be need for all the milk than can be produced with the limited supplies of feed grains available.

* * * * *

For beef cattle and sheep in the year ahead, it will be necessary to make maximum use of pasture, hay and forage—with a minimum of grain feeding.

* * * * *

Grain should be fed to beef cattle only when it makes possible a better utilization of pasture, hay and forage crops. Farmers can contribute much to the solution of the world's food problem by marketing large numbers of beef cattle with little or no grain feeding.

No Grain Wasted In Fattening Livestock

THE implication that excessive use of grain for fattening livestock is a cause of this country's failure to meet wheat relief commitments is not founded in fact, F. E. Mollin, Secretary of the American National Livestock Association, has asserted in a letter to Economic Stabilizer Chester Bowles. Mr. Mollin declared that the supply of wheat in the year ended October 1, 1945, was 1 billion 400 million bushels, and of that amount, only a little more than 5 million bushels was fed to cattle other than dairy cows, and of the amount used, very little was suitable for milling. Mr. Mollin further stated that only about 8 or 9 per cent of the corn crop is fed annually to cattle, largely to fatten grass-fed animals. He maintained that normally it isn't uneconomic to feed corn to cattle and that, even under present conditions, it is wise to feed young animals up to a "good" grade.

Robert R. Jones, sheepman of Billings, Montana, also has taken up the cudgel in defense of livestock feeding, particularly as it pertains to lambs. In a letter to the National Wool Growers Association dated May 23, Mr. Jones makes the following comments:

The New Dealers seem to have most of the United States thinking in their terms regarding feeding grain to livestock, i.e., that it takes 7 pounds or so of grain to

produce one pound of meat, or for every 100 calories fed to animals, only about 15 calories are returned in the form of meat. . . . I think it is time that you started handing out some facts and get some publicity on them. Pretty soon the people of the United States will all think in those terms unless someone puts them right.

When animals are put on a fattening ration, there is no doubt but what they waste calories, but only for a comparatively short time. Fat lambs are marketed in the United States after they are from roughly 150 days to 300 days old. Lambs marketed around 150 days are mostly mountain lambs, fat, and have had not one pound of any grain. Lambs that are around 200 days old require very little grain to fatten them. Lambs marketed around 300 days old require the most grain, but even in the extreme case it doesn't take anywhere near 7 or 8 pounds of grain to produce a pound of meat.

A lamb marketed 300 days old probably weighs around 65 pounds when put in the feed lot. Not one pound of grain is required to get the lamb weighing 65 pounds, but quite a little will be needed to get that lamb in killing condition. But I assure you I can take a 65-pound range lamb and get 100 pounds liveweight of fat lamb with less than 100 pounds of grain by using such supplements as pasture, hay, beet tops, dried beet pulp, etc.

I don't know how old the average fat lamb is when marketed, but let's say 225 days. If for every day of his life he eats an average of 3 pounds of dry matter, then he would consume about 700 pounds of feed. Considering the number of lambs marketed right off grass, after a short feed, average feed, and long feed, I would guess that the average lamb doesn't get 35 pounds of grain. The final result is that it takes less than one pound of grain to produce one pound of meat, and in addition you have the wool and many by-products.

The Saga of Wool in War and Peace

With the flood of literature that sweeps across the country these days, it takes something with real power and force to catch and hold any one's interest. Such power the Saga of Wool has. This is not only our opinion, which could be questioned on the score of prejudice since it is a publication of the American Wool Council, but that of many others whose comments are too numerous to publish.

Made up of excerpts from reports of the United States Army and Navy, it gives the irrefutable facts about the value of wool for both military and civilian use. While wool growers and others who have been contributing to the support of the American Wool Council already have strong convictions about the worth of wool, the facts assembled in the Saga by Executive Director F. E. Ackerman are bound to give them that warm glow that comes from having one's convictions firmly substantiated.

The text of the bulletin lends itself well to publication in sections and that is the way the Wool Grower will present it during the coming months. Here is the first section.

THE ARMY AND NAVY AGREE: WOOL HAS NO SUBSTITUTE

"Considerable research was undertaken to find out if there was some other material that could be used by the Army in place of wool . . . At the end of the war, we were still using wool for military clothing as we did at the beginning."

"The superiority of . . . the wool fiber has been adequately demonstrated in controlled tests, and, more important, in actual campaign use."

These excerpts from the utterances of Lt. Colonel S. J. Kennedy, Chief, Textile Section, Research and Develop-

ment Branch of the Office of the Quartermaster General, are eloquent testimony of the indispensable part which wool played in protecting the health and adding to the comfort of our Armed Forces during the recently ended World War.

On the following pages are quoted other excerpts from officers and scientists of the Army and the Navy which relate dramatically the vital part wool played in winning the most terrible war in which the world has yet engaged. We submit this record as a modern handbook for those seeking salient facts having the weight of utter truthfulness and the impress of final authority. We believe it will be equally valuable to teachers, merchandising executives and retail sales staffs seeking accurate information and knowledge as to the relative protective qualities of natural and synthetic fibers.

This "copy" was not written by expert phrase-makers to sell a particular product. It is in effect a "report to the nation" by experts in whose hands was placed the awe-inspiring task of protecting the health of our Armed Forces while they were fighting in every latitude, in hitherto unexplored altitudes, and on and under the seven seas.

From the outbreak of the war, the utmost resources of producers of synthetic fibers were placed at the disposal of the Government in an effort to find some substitute for wool. Victory in this search would not only have solved a critical wartime problem, but it would have opened to synthetic fibers the greatest of all markets—those clothing, blanket and other markets where the exclusive protective qualities of wool have always been indispensable and irreplaceable.

On the following pages, in the words of the men responsible for making our Army and Navy the best and most

Acme Photo

Moving up, somewhere in France, these soldiers are protected from the cold by the best uniforms that science and industry could devise.





Press Assn. Photo

Tested in the laboratory and in the field, wool not only maintained its superior position but was given new duties and new uses.

scientifically clad in the world, the reasons why this search was a failure are revealed. Once again, it has been proved—that there is no substitute for wool.

Fifteen Million Field Tests Prove Wool Supreme

"It is under the extreme conditions of combat that the soldier learns the true merits of his equipment. What may have passed for a good article in the bright lights of the show window or may even have stood up in use on city streets, stands on the landing beaches, in the jungles, and on the rocks and sand of the desert, completely stripped of the halo of bright words with which the arts of advertising may have surrounded it in peace time. In combat, only its true value and serviceability count. It does not take long under such conditions for a soldier to learn that his life depends upon his equipment. A rifle that jams, a cartridge that does not fire, or a pair of shoes that goes to pieces on a critical march when the nearest replacement may be many days away, can mean the difference between life and death.

"Not only the equipment itself but the materials used in its construction also come to stand on their true merits. It has been under these conditions that wool as a fiber for military textiles has demonstrated its value during the war.

"Wool clothing, in one form or another, has constituted a large part of the American soldier's equipment. The wool uniform was prescribed for both winter and summer in the European theater of operations; had the war gone on in the Pacific the same would have applied to troops in Japan and China. Many millions of men have learned during the past

four years what wool clothing will do for them, beyond anything they had experienced as civilians."

(Source: "Military Influence Upon Civilian Use of Wool," Lt. Col. S. J. Kennedy, Chief, Textile Section, Research and Development Branch of the Office of the Quartermaster General, before the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, November 28, 1945.)

Cold Weather Protection

"Insulation involves usually normal clothing plus special outerwear. Wool is probably the most economical and generally efficient cold-climate clothing insulator . . . First consideration should be given to lightness of weight combined with proportionate warmth."

(Source: "The Hygiene of Clothing," Lt. Comdr. George W. Mast, USN, and Lt. (j.g.) Howard W. Ennes, Jr., USNR, of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, 1943.)

The Navy Must Have Wool

"The Navy's present dry-weather winter outfit includes . . . blue jungle-cloth, wool-lined, overall-type trouser. . . . sufficiently large to go over the usual clothing plus a special wool under-garment. A similarly constructed jacket closes by zipper and is kept tight at wrists and neck by knitted bands. The feet are protected by heavy knee-length gloves which should be supplemented by wool inner gloves in very cold weather. The head is covered by a (wool) fleece-lined jungle-cloth helmet fastening under the chin and having a neck guard."

(Source: "The Hygiene of Clothing," see above.)

The Grazing Fee Problem

The grazing fee question, which became dormant with the announcement late last year by former Secretary Ickes that there would be no increase until six months after subsidy payments to the livestock industry were stopped, has come back to life with a "bang" as a result of a powerful shot in the arm given by the House of Representatives. That body, in considering the appropriations for the Interior Department during the next fiscal year, severely criticized the Director of Grazing for not increasing the fees and curtailing expenditures and set its appropriations for the Service at \$425,000, or less than one-third of the more than \$1,700,000 asked for.

While lack of understanding on the part of House members from eastern sections of the country on many matters pertaining to the public lands in the West is apparent, that does not alter the fact that they are evidently determined that something must be done to reduce the expenditures of public moneys in handling them.

At about the same time as the House was debating this question, the Subcommittee Investigating the Administration and Use of the Public Lands made a report to the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys on the grazing fee question. It finds, among other things, that "the livestock industry using the grazing districts is in a deficit net earning position, facing great uncertainty in the immediate future, and not prepared to absorb higher grazing fees."

Present opinion is that the Senate will increase the House allotment for the Grazing Service somewhat; and if the conference committee agrees to that, then administration of the Grazing Service will be provided for during the coming fiscal year. However, it is also understood that members of the Senate subcommittee are very much opposed to the mounting expenditures by the Grazing Service, and, therefore, the Senate will probably not grant anywhere near as much money as has been asked for.

The situation apparently calls for some constructive action on the part of stockmen, and to that end, the Executive Committees of the National Livestock Association and the National Wool Growers Association are considering a joint meeting in Salt Lake City on August 16 and 17 to go into the entire question. Your association will be glad to receive recommendations for the solution of the problem.

On the following pages are given the summary of the report of the Senate subcommittee on public lands and a part of the statements made by eastern representatives in the House debate on the Grazing Service appropriation.

Grazing Service Criticized

THE appropriation bill for the Department of the Interior, H. R. 6335, as it passed the House on May 16, 1946, slashed the funds for the Grazing Service with a heavy hand. Of the more than \$1,700,000 estimated by the Bureau of the Budget as necessary for the administration of the Grazing Service during the fiscal year, July 1, 1946, to June 30, 1947, only \$425,000, or that part of the fees returned to the United States Treasury, was left by the House.

The estimate of \$1,504,000 for salaries and expenses was cut 85 per cent to \$211,500; \$205,000 was allowed for range improvements; and \$7,500, for the leasing of grazing lands.

Representative Robinson of Utah offered an amendment to restore the \$1,504,000 figure, and Representative Dworshak offered an amendment to that amendment, putting the appropriation for salaries and expenses at \$1,121,470, the amount spent in the current fiscal year. Both amendments were rejected. Then after the debate on the bill was finished and the House was ready to vote, Mr. Dworshak moved

that the bill be recommitted to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to add \$425,000 to the salaries and expense item, which would bring the total appropriation up to \$850,000, and report the same to the House. This move was also rejected.

While the debate in the House brings out quite definitely the misconception held by eastern and middle western members of the unappropriated and unreserved federal lands in the West, the prevailing sentiment in the House undoubtedly is that the Grazing Service should live up to the "promise" made by former Secretary Ickes, when the Taylor Grazing Act was under consideration, that administration costs would be only \$150,000 a year, and that the fees charged for grazing are not high enough.

When Congressman Johnson of Oklahoma, as chairman of the subcommittee which handled the bill and of which Mr. Dworshak of Idaho was the only western member, presented H. R. 6335 to the entire House, this is the statement he made about the Grazing Service:

MR. JOHNSON: Now for a few minutes I wish to talk about something that the gentleman who has been interrogating me will be interested in, the Grazing Service.

The Grazing Service was established under what is known as the Taylor Grazing Act. Because of the admiration and affection that many of us had for the distinguished and lamented late chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Hon. Edward Taylor, of Colorado, and because we were convinced that there was need for some sort of service, this Congress passed the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934. It passed it after a certain former Secretary of the Interior appeared before committees in Congress and assured us that it would be self-supporting. Over and over we were told that the Grazing Service would be self-supporting.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from Oklahoma has again expired.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 10 additional minutes.

The first year after the Congress had made an appropriation of \$150,000 as requested, there was expended for the service \$250,000. The Department did not live within the limits that this committee and the Congress had been promised faithfully it would take to operate the Grazing Service. This committee said then in the early stages of the Grazing Service that it must be self-supporting. But what did the Grazing Service do? They went out and practically turned it over to the big cowmen and the big sheepmen of the West. Why, they even

put them on the pay roll, and they had meetings at 57 or 58 places.

Mr. GRANGER of Utah. Sixty.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. I thank the gentleman for the correction. So it is 60. As usual I was a bit conservative in my statement. It set up some 60 suboffices or subregional offices throughout the five grazing states. Then they had to have a lot of meetings and these bigshot cowmen and sheepmen would come and make speeches and have their expenses of about five bucks a day paid by the government. Anyhow, it is common knowledge that they practically have been running the Grazing Service. They did not choose to assess grazing fees that were anywhere comparable to the fees the other people pay.

Imagine our surprise to find them charging 1 cent per sheep per month and I believe 5 cents each for cattle. They have made a joke out of the Grazing Service. Well, what our committee complains about is, that up has gone the demand for appropriations year by year; and year by year the committee has said, "Get your house in order. Live within your income. Be self-supporting." But they have refused and failed to do so or to make any serious effort in that direction.

Mr. GRANGER. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Sorry, not now.

Imagine our surprise when the Grazing Service came before the committee this year and asked for not \$150,000 according to the understanding made with the Congress when the bill was passed; not \$300,000, not \$900,000 or \$1,000,000, but more than \$1,700,000. They told this committee that was the least they could operate on efficiently during the next year. We asked the head of the Grazing Service: "What about your fees? Have you raised them yet?"

His answer was: "No; we have not raised them."

There were certain individuals who apparently had sufficient influence to prevent any effort along that line.

I will tell you what this committee did. It leaned backward to be fair to the Grazing Service and I am going into some detail about that because it is the thing some of these gentlemen are so strenuously objecting to. We are told today that this committee is going against the people of the West. Now, let us see about that.

The committee finally found out what they had raised in fees and we found that the share of the Federal Government amounted to \$425,000. Instead of eliminating all appropriations for the Grazing Service, as we were tempted to do, instead of giving them \$150,000 that we promised, we gave them \$425,000, the amount that they collected and which goes to the Federal Government, and we said to the Grazing Service: "Live up to your contract; live within your revenues," and by the eternals, they are going to do it whether they like it or not.

We have no apologies to make for having cut the Grazing Service back to where they should have been cut long ago. We hope that a year hence they will get their untidy, mismanaged and disorganized house in order. So much for the Grazing Service.

A few other extracts from the debate are given to show the attitude of some of the House members.

(Continued on page 31)

Senate Committee Report on Grazing Fees

THE summary of the findings of the

Senate Subcommittee Investigating the Administration and Use of Public Lands on the grazing fee question is printed here. This committee, which it will be recalled, began its hearings on the fee question in Washington, D. C., in January, 1945, after the announcement by the Director of Grazing in the preceding November that fees were to be trebled temporarily until completion of a study to determine a permanent rate schedule. Various groups of committee members then held hearings at Phoenix, Arizona; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Ely, Nevada; Salt Lake City, Utah; Boise, Idaho; and Baker and Burns, Oregon, during May and June; and in Casper, Wyoming, and Grand Junction, Colorado, in September.

Members of the committee include: Senators McCarran (Nevada), Hatch (New Mexico), Taylor (Idaho), O'Mahoney (Wyoming), who all served as chairmen in the various district meetings, Murdock (Utah), Robertson (Wyoming), Cordon (Oregon), Wagner (New York), Gurney (South Dakota), Willis (Indiana), Andrews (Florida), Hickenlooper, (Iowa), and Johnson (Colorado). The late Senator John Thomas of Idaho was also a committee member.

REPORT

(To accompany S. Res. 139)

SUMMARY

This committee finds that—

(1) The livestock industry using the grazing districts is in a deficit net earning position, facing great uncertainties in the immediate future and not prepared to absorb higher grazing fees.

(2) The sheep and wool producing industry is already in process of drastic liquidation.

(3) The only range study made by the Grazing Service, in 1941, when net earnings of the livestock industry were at or near a peak, showed that ranchers had no net earnings to pay any grazing fees on public lands after deduction of taxes and interest on investment.

(4) No increase in grazing fees can be justified at this time, nor until a careful and unbiased study of the factors involved has been made.

(5) Any grazing fees charged should not be increased beyond the ability of the livestock users to pay, and to maintain those base properties, lands and waters, which the Taylor Grazing Act and the Grazing Service regulations require them to control, as qualifications for grazing permits.

(6) Grazing districts users are alarmed by the rapidly increasing administration costs in the Grazing Service.

(7) If grazing fees are to be based on administration costs, users should have a

voice in limiting these costs and in restricting services involved to those desired by them.

(8) The Congress and the Grazing Service should give careful consideration to the recommendations of the National Advisory Board Council that—

(a) Any fee finally fixed must be based on a direct relation to the reasonable cost of administering public lands for grazing purposes only and nothing more.

(b) The study of the cost of administration of grazing lands for grazing purposes only should be completed and presented to the Council.

(c) By amendment, the Taylor Grazing Act should provide that fees paid by grazing users of the grazing districts be used for administration only.

(d) With such provisions in the act, grazing users will finance and maintain range improvements desired to them.

These findings are substantiated in the report, which is summarized as follows:

The Grazing Service administers 60 grazing districts from 57 district offices and 9 regional offices, located in 10 of the 11 western public-land states. The grazing districts cover a gross area of 266,000,000 acres, or 37 per cent of the total area of the 10 states. The districts contain approximately 141,000,000 acres of public land.

There were under license or permit to use the public range in the grazing districts in 1944, 1,990,272 cattle, 127,701 horses, 8,482,376 sheep, and 93,956 goats, or the equivalent of 3,933,240 animal units and 15,745,422 animal unit months. According to the Director of Grazing, these are equivalent to 20 per cent of all the cattle and 43 per cent of all the sheep in the 11 western states. These livestock graze on the public range lands for an average of slightly more than 4 months of each year. These livestock are owned by some 22,000 individual ranchers, representing nearly 25 per cent of all livestock operators in the 11 western states.

During the 10 fiscal years ending in 1945, the Grazing Service collected fees aggregating \$6,927,036, or an average of \$692,704 per year. The collections for 1945 were \$765,382. Under the provisions of the Taylor Grazing Act, 50 per cent of the collections are returned to the States from which they originate, to be expended as the respective State legislatures shall direct; and an additional 25 per cent, when appropriated by the Congress, is expended by the Grazing Service for the construction, purchase and maintenance of range improvements. The bulk of the 50-per-cent funds are expended for the improvement of the public range, generally under the direction of the district advisory boards.

The direct appropriations for the administration of the Grazing Service (salaries and expenses) have grown from \$250,000 for the first fiscal year, 1936, to \$1,074,740 for 1945. For the current fiscal year it is \$979,470. In the appropriation bill now before the Congress, the Grazing Service is asking that this be increased by \$600,000, or by more than 60 per cent.

In addition, the Grazing Service has had for expenditure other funds appropriated or allocated to it, such as the 25-per-cent funds, the soil and moisture and the emergency fire funds appropriated for the Department of the Interior, and moneys for the leasing of lands and for the construction of access roads. For several years large sums were available from the Civilian Conservation

Corps. All of these moneys, for the 11 fiscal years, total \$38,757,298. But excluding the Civilian Conservation Corps funds, and some others not directly involved, the Grazing Service has had available for administration \$14,777,177.

In summary, by the end of this fiscal year (1946) the Grazing Service will have collected grazing fee sums totaling approximately \$7,727,000, compared with appropriations for salaries and expenses totaling \$7,995,210.

When the Taylor Grazing Act and its amendments were under consideration by the Public Lands Committees of the Congress, in 1933 to 1936, Secretary Ickes estimated that the administration of the act would cost about \$150,000 per year.

The Taylor Grazing Act, approved June 28, 1934, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to determine from time to time the "reasonable fees" to be charged annually for the use of public lands within grazing districts. The present uniform fee of 5 cents per animal unit month was fixed in 1936. An animal unit means one cow or horse, or five sheep or goats.

The controversy over grazing fees revolves around the meaning of the term "reasonable fees" specified in the act. When the Taylor Grazing Act was under consideration for passage, Secretary Ickes told the Congress:

We have no intention of making this a revenue producer at all. We would like for the range to pay for its own administration, but nothing more.

That declaration is in conformity wth the whole history and spirit of the act. The preamble states that it is an act—

To stop injury to the public lands by preventing overgrazing and soil deterioration, to provide for their orderly use, improvement, and development, to stabilize the livestock industry dependent upon the public range * * *

The livestock users of the grazing districts are not asking for special favors. They want to pay their way; a reasonable price for what they are receiving. They believe that they are doing this under the fees now in force. They are opposed to an increase in the fees at this time, in view of their present net earning position, and the difficulties and uncertainties now confronting the livestock industry. They are alarmed by the rapid expansion of the Grazing Service, and its insatiable demand for ever-larger appropriations, presumably to be charged back against the users of the grazing districts. They believe that if they are to be asked to pay for this ever-mounting cost of administration and services attributable to livestock, they should have a voice in determining and limiting the kinds and amounts of these things charged to them. The livestock industry using the grazing districts would be quite willing to pay larger fees if, (1) a careful and unbiased study should show that the additional costs and services are needed, and (2) if these costs be kept within the ability of the users to meet them and to maintain those dependent privately owned properties which both the law and the Grazing Service regulations require them to have in order to qualify for permits to graze upon the public lands. No such study or showing has yet been made.

The grazing-district users further believe that, in the charge against administration costs, they should be credited with the full amount of their fee payments, and not only the 25 per cent thereof that remains to the credit of the general fund. They do not think that they should, or could, pay four times the cost of administration. The distribution of the 50-per cent and 25-per

cent funds is not of their choosing. If they are to be credited only with the amounts remaining in the general fund, they would favor the elimination of the 50- and 25 per cent funds; and, in this event, they would themselves finance and construct the range improvements desired by them. Furthermore, they are not willing to be charged with those activities of the Grazing Service which are not directly related to the livestock industry. A considerable part of the Grazing Service acts are concerned with the general public interest in the conservation of the public domain, the wildlife thereon, stream flow for irrigation and other purposes, etc.

On the other hand, the position taken by the present Director of Grazing is that the costs of administration and grazing fees are entirely independent and unrelated matters, each to be considered upon its own merits. He believes, however, that in the long run they will or should approximate each other. The Director contends that the basis for the grazing fees should be "a reasonable price for the forage" in the grazing districts.

The livestock users think that this principle of the sale of the forage values in the districts means the taking of what the traffic will bear. This principle, they believe, and this committee agrees, is at variance with the history and spirit and intent of the Taylor Grazing Act.

Early in 1941 the Grazing Service completed a range appraisal study intended to furnish the factual and statistical basis for the determination of the "reasonable fees" authorized in the act. The results of this study were presented in detail by Grazing Service officials in many meetings with the livestock users of the grazing districts. The Report of Range Appraisal recommended that the fees be substantially trebled,

over a period of 4 years, and that the amount of the fee be varied from year to year, on a sliding-scale basis, in accordance with changes in the market prices for beef and lambs.

The results of the range-appraisal study were subjected to critical analysis by the livestock men in several hearings before this subcommittee in 1941. Following those hearings, and other meetings, the then Director of Grazing, in January 1942, at the meeting with the National Advisory Board Council, shelved the report and its recommendations. The Director agreed with the council that, because of the many uncertainties facing the livestock industry at that time, there would be no changes in the fees until the war emergency had passed. This pledge was renewed by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior 2 years later when he met with the National Advisory Board Council in January 1944.

Within a period of a few weeks following the renewal of this pledge, officials of the Grazing Service, when they appeared before the House Subcommittee on Appropriations, launched a determined campaign to force an increase in the grazing fees. The larger fees were and are sought by the Grazing Service in order that the increased collections may serve as a justification for still larger appropriations and further expansion of the organization. The Grazing Service officials presented to the Subcommittee on Appropriations, wholly gratuitously and without proper explanation, grossly misleading figures intended to show that the grazing district users are receiving forage values many times in excess of the sums paid therefor in the form of grazing fees.

This so-called value of the grazing district forage is wholly indefensible from the findings of the range-appraisal study or from

(Continued on page 36)

DIRECTORS OF THE PACIFIC WOOL GROWERS



Seated: C. E. Grelle, Portland, Oregon, Secretary-Treasurer; R. L. Clark, Portland, Oregon, President; R. A. Ward, Portland, Oregon, Vice President and General Manager; C. C. Eubank, Ogden, Utah; Gaylord M. Madison, Echo, Oregon; Robert H. Warrens, Forest Grove, Oregon, Vice President; P. H. Spillman, Powell Butte, Oregon; J. A. Alexander, Chehalis, Washington.

Standing: G. A. Sander, Scio, Oregon; H. G. Avery, Union, Oregon; R. G. McKenzie, Sixes, Oregon; R. V. Hogg, Salem, Oregon; E. L. Adams, Portland, Oregon, Comptroller; Bruce M. Hay, Spokane, Washington.

Directors not present: Dr. Edwin Bunnell, Willows, California; B. F. McCombs, Blue Lake, California; E. A. McCornack, Eugene, Oregon.

Days Of Old

By Richard Wormwood

Richard Wormwood returns to the Wool Grower this month with personal reminiscences centered around a trek with a bunch of sheep into Nevada some years ago. As the author of "Letters from a Sheepherder to his Pal," which ran in the Wool Grower in the 1920's, Wormwood built up quite a following among Wool Grower readers. His present contribution will run serially through the summer months. The original drawings for Days of Old are by Mrs. Clara Williams Knapp of Pocatello, Idaho.

EARLY in the morning of May 12th, in the long ago year of 1901, a seventeen-year-old boy stood leaning against what was then known as the Vendome Hotel, in the city of Weiser, Idaho, idly contemplating the line of saddle and buggy horses tied to the hitchrack in front of the Vendome's bar. I remember the occasion very well, for I was that boy. It was a fateful hour in my life, for I had just parted with the only vocation I knew, and was about to take up another, although I was not aware of that at the moment. I leaned against the Vendome simply because I had nothing else to do.

For three years I had been wrangling saddle horses for a horse outfit during

the spring, summer and fall months, studying arithmetic, McGuffey's Readers, and a couple of tall girls down at a little country school in winter. There were only ten pupils and the schoolma'am, and all of us came to school on horseback. The first year the girls came riding double, the second year they had a horse a piece, and the third year—which was also the last—they came riding new side saddles, wearing long dresses, and had their hair done up in a little knob at the back of the head. When spring came, and school was out, they got married and took up the duties of housewives. They had arrived at the wondrous age of sixteen when their husbands slipped little gold bands over their ring fingers and went on from there together for better, or for worse, as fate might decree for each.

The schoolma'am — God bless her heart wherever she may be—always rode a blaze-faced bay work horse that the people where she boarded let her have. He was too old to plow and was safe for her to ride. She rode sideways from the start, for she was all of twenty, and a real little lady if ever there was one. I rode a bronc whenever I could rustle one, and played "Wild West" coming home from school. I'd jab the bronc with a spur on the off side, so

nobody would notice it, and rode with one hand held high to prove that I wasn't hanging onto anything.

I was more or less of a dumb-bell at school and barely graduated from one class to the next; but I could throw a forty-five foot lariat with considerable precision, either from horseback, or in the corral, a foot, and could ride—so I fondly thought—anything that perambulated on four legs.

That very spring I'd been promoted and admitted as a full-fledged buckaroo, at thirty dollars a month—a man's pay. As rango boy I'd been getting only ten dollars a month the first year, and fifteen the second and third years. Apprenticeship didn't pay much here, and now, that I'd reached the top, so to speak, the pay wasn't so hot either; among the twenty to thirty riders that made up a rodeo gang there were only a few who ever had as little as a hundred dollars cash at any one time.

There were other emoluments that made the job interesting: always to have good horses to ride, to run wild horses on the range, to corral them and to work the corral—which meant to brand everything that was unbranded, select the best animals for shipment back east, and to hold horses that had strayed from farms and ranches, sometimes for months, for return to their owners. It was fun when the gang sometimes rode down the main street of some little town, by two and two, on half-wild horses, and have the girls wave at us from porches and balconies.

We looked down as from a great height on mere cowboys. Those poor fellows really had to work for a living, riding in the suffocating dust of trail herds going to the railroad, sometimes for days at a stretch. We'd even heard of some that pitched hay and fixed fences—all the same as a farm hand. None of that kind of stuff for us. We made one ride each day—except when it rained hard and the ground was too slippery to run a horse at top speed—corral the horses we had managed to hold together, and call it a day. In the evenings we'd play poker on our saddle blankets, and when night came we sat around a fire while some of the boys



I hit the hardest spot in that county.

Clara Williams Knapp

played harmonicas, or sang songs of the range.

All that, and thirty dollars a month cash. Came a night when a man rode into camp with a most disturbing tale. Byrd Lynch, I think it was; he had been back east as far as New York—which was away back east—and told a tale of horseless carriages that he had seen with his own good eyes. Yes, sir, it was true—they had buggies back there that ran without horses! They made good time, too, according to Byrd's observation, and it would be all a good horse could do to keep up with one of them.

There was no harmonica playing that night, nobody sang about Sam Bass or Bill Roy, as we sat in a close circle around Byrd Lynch and listened to him tell about this wonder of wonders—a buggy that ran by its own self. Frankly, it had us worried, for horses already had to compete with bicycles, so that we were violently hostile towards anything that might further threaten the source of our bread and butter—horses.

Next morning, standing around the fire with tin plates in our hands, lapping up the syrup they contained with chunks of frying pan bread, we listened to Bill Wall—old time rodeo boss—dissertate on the subject that was uppermost in our minds.

He'd been thinking it over during the night. "One of these days somebody'll git killed in one of them contraptions," he opined, "and that'll put the kybosh on the whole works. They'll pass a law." He knocked the grounds out of his cup by hitting it against a sagebrush and went on. "Sitting on a can of gasoline," he snorted, "which is more deadly than pouring coal oil into a hot stove—no sirree! Gimme a good hoss any day in the year, includin' Christmas and the Fourth of July!"

Old Bill reassured even Byrd Lynch, who had seen the horseless buggies rolling around; but I had a hunch that they might yet challenge horses as a means of conveyance. I sure wanted to see one run.

About that time I got onto a big slug-headed buckskin with one glass eye and a black stripe running all the way down his back. Ask any horseman what he thinks of that kind of a horse. He threw me so high that I turned a complete somersault in the air, and kicked me twice on the way down. I didn't light right away, either; that buckskin ran under me and tossed me up again three times; if somebody'd timed

Grazing Conference

President G. N. Winder of the National Wool Growers Association and President Wm. B. Wright of the American National Livestock Association conferred with Secretary of the Interior, J. A. Krug, in Salt Lake City, Utah, on Sunday June 9. The two association presidents agreed to call their executive committees together on August 16 and 17 in Salt Lake City, to form a definite program for handling the Grazing Service problem.

President Winder, in calling the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association together, has urged them to come prepared to offer concrete suggestions on what the program should be.

me I'd been the world's first aviator, for I stayed up longer than the Wright Brothers, the first time they got both feet off the ground.

When I got so I could throw my right leg over a saddle quick enough to do any good I tackled the buckskin once more. I had a couple of riders haze him on a dead run for four or five miles so he never had a chance to swap ends or sunfish; by the time we got back to the corral he was fairly gentle, and I saved my reputation as a rider. Anybody can fall off a horse once, even the Prince of Wales did that—but a man shouldn't fall off the same horse twice, and I had proved that I could ride and stay within the permissible average.

Nevertheless, I figured that I was through buckarooning. You couldn't sell laurels; the girls were all getting married, putting on airs and aprons; so I sold my saddle, drew eighteen days' pay, and at the time I was leaning up against the Vendome I was trying to figure out what I'd done with the money.

That was the turning point in my young life. A tall, angular man with three days' growth of black whiskers on his face was coming out of the Vendome's bar, walking towards me and to a team of bays and buckboard that were tied to the hitchrack at that point.

When he came to where I stood he stopped, hesitated, and looked me over from head to foot.

"Kid," he then said, "do you want a job?"

I wanted a job more than anything else right then, but didn't want to expose my hand. "It all depends," I replied, "on the kind of a job. What is it?"

The man brushed the question aside. "Can you pack a horse?" he asked. He had noticed my high-heeled boots and judged that I had worked with horses.

My mind flew back to the buckskin. That horse had thrown half a dozen riders before he threw me. Could I pack a horse? It was like asking an artist if he could paint a sign on a fence.

I swallowed my pride. "I can pack any horse that walks on four legs," I said.

"I'm trailering twenty thousand head of yearling wethers down to California," the man explained. "There'll be four thousand to the herd, two herders and a camp tender. You'll take the packstring, pack the camp outfit, and help cook. It's fifty dollars a month, and I'll furnish the bedroll. If you stay all the way to California I'll pay your way back to Weiser."

It was a long speech, but I had followed it closely, especially that reference to fifty dollars every month—almost twice a buckaroo's wages. I was thinking of horses—running horses on the dead run, the hum of the lariat, the shock when the rope tightened on the captured horse's neck, and the roped horse setting back on his haunches. There'd be no more of that.

"Do you want the job?" I heard the man's voice through my meditations.

I came out of my trance. "I'll take it. When do we start?"

"Right now," the man said, and stepped off the sidewalk to untie his team.

I helped get the horses untied and got into the buckboard. That was how I met John McDonald, one of the best sheepmen of his time, and a man among men anywhere. That was how a career overtook and engulfed me; how I became a tiny little tentacle on the arms of that vast lanate octopus known as the sheep and wool growing industry that lies across the continent from sea to sea, acting as a scavenger of weeds and waste grasses on mountains and in the desert, and converting these into wool and mutton to help clothe and feed the nation.

It would be a cinch, I thought, to work at this business—packing a few horses and leading them across the country. It would be child's play.

I had a lot to learn.

(More next Month)

The National Wool Grower

Permit Not a Right

FOREST SERVICE STATEMENT

WHEN the Forest Service issued its revisions of grazing regulations last fall (Wool Grower, January, Page 10), considerable dismay was caused among permittees by the modification in Regulation G-3 covering the issuance of 10-year permits. By this change, the clause was eliminated which read ".... and to have the full force and effect of a contract between the United States and the permittee. It shall not be reduced or modified except as may be specifically provided for in the permit itself and shall not be revoked or canceled except for violation of its terms or by mutual agreement."

W. L. Dutton, Chief of the Division of Range Management, has recently issued a statement giving the reason for the deletion of this clause. The change was made at the request of the Solicitor for the Forest Service "on the grounds that a decision by the Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of Osborne vs. United States, 145F (2nd) 892, November 24, 1944, held there was no statutory authorization for the above quoted provision of the regulation."

The Solicitor's memorandum to the Chief of the Forest Service dated March 5, 1945, included the following paragraphs. They are particularly interesting because they go into the question of vested rights.

The Osbornes held term permits for grazing on the Kaibab National Forest. Certain adjoining lands, which were not a part of the national forest, were also owned or leased by them. The national forest land, as to which the Osbornes held a grazing permit, and other lands in the Coconino and Kaibab National Forests were withdrawn and appropriated for the use of the War Department. The adjoining land owned or leased by the Osbornes was included in a condemnation proceeding under which the United States took possession of the land.

At the trial in the district court, the Osbornes sought, by proffered instructions, to have the jury instructed to award them damages for the value of their grazing privileges on the national forest lands, as well as damages for the taking of the land which was not national forest land. The trial court refused to so instruct the jury and an appeal was perfected on the question as to whether or not the trial court had erred in refusing to so instruct the jury. The decision of the circuit court of appeals turned upon the question as to whether or not the grazing permits were mere licenses which could be revoked at the will of the Government without any obligation upon

the Government to make payment of compensation for the revocation.

The term permit held by the Osbornes was issued under regulations promulgated by the Secretary. In deciding that the Osbornes were not entitled to any damages in the condemnation proceedings for the revocation of the term grazing permit, the court recognized that the Osbornes had a recourse under the Act of July 9, 1942 (56 Stat. 654; 43 U.S.C. 315q, Supp. III), and reviewed the legal history of stock grazing on the public lands of the United States. In that review the court cited and quoted portions of a number of Supreme Court and lower Federal Court cases dealing with grazing rights on both national forests and unreserved public domain lands.

The court decided two main points: First that there is no legal authorization for the issuance of a term grazing permit or other form of permit for grazing on the national forests which could not be revoked by the Government at will without making any payment of compensation for such revocation. Second, that notwithstanding the language in the regulations or the permit, a permit for grazing on the national forests does not give to the permittee any property right as against the Government and does not subject the Government to the payment of compensation for its revocation.

It appears that the permit in this case was issued for a specified term, and the regulations under which it was issued contained the following provisions:

A term permit shall have the full force and effect of a contract between the United States and the permittee. It shall not be reduced or modified except as may be specifically provided for in the permit itself and shall not be revoked or canceled except for violation of its terms or by mutual agreement.

The court pointed out that the grazing regulations were issued under the Secretary's general authorization (Act of June 4, 1897, -30 Stat. 11, 35—as amended by the Act of February 1, 1905—33 Stat. 628; 16, U.S.C. 551) to make regulations to preserve the forests and regulate their occupancy and use. The court further pointed out that there is no statutory authorization for the above-quoted provision of the regulations and that regulations exceeding statutory authority are void.

The regulations under which the permit in this case was issued were revoked by the Secretary on April 19, 1940, and the new grazing regulations were promulgated. These new regulations were later amended on May 17, 1940, April 3, 1941, and June 9, 1942. The present regulations contain references to term permits and provide "A term permit shall not exceed 10 years and shall have the full force and effect of a contract between the United States and the permittee. It shall not be reduced or modified except as may be specifically provided for in the permit itself and shall not be revoked or canceled except for violation of its terms or by mutual agreement." In making any revisions in the regulations governing grazing on the national forests, you

will no doubt want to keep in mind the rulings of the court in the Osborne case.

In complying with Solicitor's recommendation, the Chief of the Forest Service struck the clause giving the 10-year permits the force of a contract from Regulation G-3.

Legislative Items

THE bill to extend the Emergency Price Control Act (O.P.A.), which passed the House on April 18 with provision included for the removal of all meat controls and subsidies on June 30 this year (N.W.G.—April 46, p. 6), is still (June 3) in the hands of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee. In what form the measure will leave that Committee remains to be seen. Up to the present they propose to extend the O.P.A. to June 30, 1947, to remove controls from meat, dairy products and poultry on June 30 this year; to transfer to the Secretary of Agriculture the supervision of controls over all agricultural and food products and give him power to end restrictions on them; to set up a decontrol board of three members to whom appeals could be made from decisions or regulations issued by the O.P.A. or the Secretary of Agriculture, and which would have power to reinstate controls on meat, if runaway markets develop; to reduce subsidy payments and to end the subsidy program, with the exception of copper, lead and zinc, on May 1, 1947; and to make illegal the continuance of such regulations as the Maximum Average Price (M.A.P.) order which has plagued textile manufacturers so much.

What attitude the Senate as a whole will take on this bill cannot, of course, be definitely stated at this time, nor what the President will do with it, as the Administration is opposed to paring down the powers of the O.P.A. too much at this time.

* * * *

Hearings by the Senate Committee on Commerce on S.1716 covering the establishment of a Columbia Valley Authority, scheduled for June 25 to 28 have been called off.

* * * *

The Agricultural Credit Bill (H.R. 4873) known as the Flannagan bill, which passed the House on March 19, 1946, has been tabled by the Senate Agricultural Committee.

Subsidies

Prominent Feeder Opposes

W. D. FARR, prominent lamb feeder of Greeley, Colorado, and secretary of the Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association which feeds about one-fourth of the lambs fed in the United States, told the Senate Banking and Currency Committee at its hearings on the extension of the Office of Price Administration early in May, why, in his opinion, livestock must be removed from price controls and subsidies or be permanently injured. He said, in part:

The uncertainty of O.P.A. controls and subsidies on the necessary long-range planning of a livestock operation is unbearable. We accepted controls during war times. We were assured they would last as long as hostilities continued. Now we know they expire on June 30.

What will the new rules be? How long will they last? Will we have ceilings or subsidies, or will Congress realize the danger and remove livestock and meat from subsidy and price control? These questions are in every producer's mind in America. The livestock man wants to produce meat for the consumers and during war times we did produce the largest amount of meat on record. The only reason that meat supplies are now shrinking is because of the unsettled regulations, the unfair controls, and the farmer's distastes for doing business in the black market.

If controls are removed prices will have to rise 15 to 20 per cent to offset the subsidies. These subsidies were originally put in as a rollback to hold the line. Then they were increased from time to time to encourage production. Another use of the subsidy plan was to establish ceiling prices on live cattle, and the subsidy payments were used to bring about compliance with the price control features of the general stabilization plan. Today the only use that subsidies have is not to encourage production, not to hold the line—it has been broken too many times—but to hold down meat prices, absolutely what it was not intended for. . . .

Between 20 per cent and 25 per cent of the value of our cattle and lambs is in subsidies. Certainly we are extremely vulnerable to have our inventory values reduced 25 per cent over night. Because of this threat, feed lots are being emptied and not refilled. Cattle, sheep, hogs are not being bred. Everyone is waiting to see whether we will have the same ordeal to face nine months or a year from now. Or if O.P.A. is extended, what will the new rules be? We cannot depend on any promises of the government. A year ago, Clinton Anderson promised the livestock producers of the nation that we would have at least six months' notice before subsidies were ended. We could adjust our operations in that length of time. In January, Mr. Anderson told the livestock world that he could not keep his promise. Congress would have to vote and we would have to adjust over-night. Would you have your feed lots full under these circumstances? Of course you wouldn't. When feed lots are not full, meat isn't produced. Your butcher cannot supply the meat. The answer is that black markets

will become worse and worse and the meat still won't be produced because of uncertainties."

Secretary Anderson's Position

"I am sure that nobody believes more strongly than I do in the removal of wartime food subsidies as soon as they can be removed safely," Secretary of Agriculture Anderson told the Senate Banking and Currency committee on May 11. "One of the most important reasons for this belief on my part is that you can't keep agriculture in a wartime price straight-jacket and expect it to meet its big post-war conversion. . . . However, the removal of subsidies must be timed carefully with due regard to the needs for continuing price control.

"Let me give you a brief history of my own actions and views on the subsidy problem. Early last August, shortly after becoming Secretary of Agriculture, I suggested to the Office of Economic Stabilization that all agencies responsible for the subsidy program should study and discuss the problem of terminating the subsidies at the end of the war. By November 9, a program for the removal of subsidies was ready and announced by Judge John C. Collett, then Stabilization Administrator.

It proposed termination of most subsidies not later than June 30, 1946. . . . Then at the turn of the year, a great many facts came to light which made a change in course necessary. . . . in spite of good progress in industrial reconversion, the pressure of buying power continued to bear heavily upon food supplies. Moreover, the world food situation looked worse and worse as each new report came in. . . . It became plain that there would be not only desire but effective demand for all the food we could produce in 1946 and even longer. With those facts there was no choice but to conclude that subsidy programs which are connected with important price controls would be essential for an indefinite time.

There is simply no way around the fact that there is not enough food and there is not enough of other consumer goods to supply demand. As long as that situation continues, inflation is the dangerous enemy of every one of us—of farmers at least as much as of any other group."

Modern Meat Methods

Meat Board Demonstration

WE went early, because we knew from past experience that when the National Live Stock and Meat Board puts on a demonstration of any kind, there's always a crowd. We were right! The Gold Room in the Newhouse Hotel in Salt Lake City was soon packed with over 400 grocers, meat market owners, restaurateurs, wholesale and retail butchers, hospital dietitians, and other institutional operators, ready to hear and see how pounds of meat, hence dollars and cents, can be saved by proper cutting and cooking methods.

It was the evening of May 27, and the scene was set for the Meat Board demonstration in modern meat methods in quantity service, one of the series being held over the country in the Board's program of assistance in making the most out of every pound of meat, that there may be enough to go around here at home and have some to send abroad. The ham, the pork loin, the lamb carcass on the cutting table, and the hind quarter of beef on the rack made a display rarely seen these days.

A Meat Board demonstration is always entertaining as well as instructive; and this was no exception. Don P. Tyler, with the dexterity of the meat cutting expert that he is ("he is surely the tops," as one fellow behind us put it) showed how, with a turn of the wrist here and there, the most economical cuts of meats could be obtained from the carcass. Technically, the cutting method employed by Mr. Tyler is known as muscle boning, and, of course, those who are familiar with these cutting demonstrations know that while the expert carves, he gives out a lot of valuable information about the value of meat in general and how it can be cut and cooked to best advantage. Mr. Tyler pointed out the saving to be made cutting off the tag ends of meat that are nearly always charred in the cooking, and saving them for stews and other meat dishes; also that the cutting off of excess fat for rendering is a very necessary process. The audience likewise had drilled into it thoroughly the fact that there is no tough meat, only tender and less tender cuts that require different methods of cooking. For the tender cuts, dry heat is recommended, and for the less tender

(Continued on page 36)

Presto, The Sheep Are Sprayed!

By Archie R. Harney

This is a "first" for Mr. Harney in the National Wool Grower. He is extension editor at the University of Idaho, at Moscow. In submitting this article, Mr. Harney stated that all the facts had been verified by Dr. W. E. Shull, head of the entomology department at the Idaho University.

WHEN the possibilities of spraying sheep with DDT to relieve them of such external parasites as sheep and wood ticks were discovered, hard work was made. The whole process of sheep spraying looks easy. A man stands with a spray gun in his hand and moves

push south. In other words, spraying sheep becomes hard, hard work.

Sheepmen aren't afraid of labor. The ones who can't stand hard work for long hours generally get out after the third day of their first lambing season. Following the steps of a herder as he takes ten thousand "woolies" across the country or feeds them in winter quarters has never been alluded to as childs play by the people who know about sheep. So they aren't averse to taking turn about on the end of a spray gun and going ahead with the work that way if it has to be done. What they do not like is inefficiency. If there is

knew when the chemical had to be applied for various infestations and had shown the efficiency of DDT against old-time sheep-dips.

The answer to the problem was not deeply complicated. So long as the animals had to be driven through a chute to the spraying job, all that had to be worked out was a matter of fixed spray guns along the route to direct the chemical to the right places against the sheep as they walked, single file, through the chute. Gas pipes with nozzles welded in at the right angles and in the right locations looked like the best idea, and they were. An upright pipe on either



This ramp did away with the sheep's stopping to investigate puddles formed by excess spray and raised the animals into the right position for the nozzles. The nozzles are just far enough apart to allow a really heavy ewe to pass through.

Shull's "13 gun salute" to wood and sheep ticks. Note how the nozzles at the bottom direct the spray up to the animal's body. The center spray, top, is the only one adjusted to spread the stream. The ropes at the left of the chute make it possible to turn the spray off and on while the operator works to keep the flock moving down the run.

No more wood or sheep ticks for this ewe. She has just come through the spray from Shull's 13-nozzle gun. Each nozzle forced DDT spray into her wool under a pressure of 400 pounds. Shull, standing in the background, says the ewe is about six inches too low for best results with the gun as set up. It can be lowered or raised if placed between two panels rather than hanging over one as it is doing in this photo.

This ewe figures she can go low enough to pass through the DDT without getting wet. Investigation later on showed her to be soaked to the skin over her entire body. The nozzles at the top make ducking impossible. Even her nose got wet. The spray is made of 8 pounds wettable DDT with 100 gallons of water. The DDT powder is 50 per cent strength. It takes one quart for an animal.

it over the head, neck, backs and sides of the animals as they pass down a long chute. The gun weighs in the neighborhood of three pounds without the added drag of the attached hose. It moves easily and rapidly in the spraying job as the sheep move along.

But most spray men will tell you that after the first hour of holding the gun and passing it over the anatomy of some 500 blattling sheep it begins to feel as though you had been doing it for days. The brass nozzle triples in weight, and the hose is something alive that wants to go north every time you

a better way of making a sheep camp, shearing a ewe, or spraying a flock against parasites, that is the thing they want. And they want anything that will get better results in what they are doing.

So, it was a natural thought with Earl Shull, entomologist at the University of Idaho, to look for something that would make this spraying program easier and more efficient for the sheepmen with whom he came in contact. Shull had worked out most of the kinks in the spray formula to find the best concentration for insect kills. He

side of the chute connected to a third over the top. In these Shull welded his nozzles. When the experimenting was all over, he had 13 nozzles going, three on top and five on either side. There are places for four more on the uprights if conditions should ever arise to make them necessary, or they can be moved to places of better advantage in covering the animals.

But building a sprayer for sheep to walk through is a different thing than getting the sheep to go through once the apparatus is complete. The spray comes through the 13 nozzles under 400

pounds or more pressure. It hisses ominously to a sheep, and there is a moving cloud of vapor to make a timid animal want to go the other way very, very much. Persuasion and psychology have to be used, drastically. And the same thing won't always work with different bands of sheep. Range animals and farm flocks don't seem to think alike. There is more to the sheep business than being a good walker and being able to withstand the bites of sage ticks.

Shull found trouble in getting his sheep through the spraying device. Finally he covered the top of the chute with a nine-foot piece of canvas and hung it down at the outer end so that it looked like a hole through which the animals might escape. It worked. The sheep went through the spray thinking there was freedom at the other end. Herders aver a sheep will go anywhere he thinks he isn't wanted. The hole evidently looked that way to them.

When everything else had been settled and the first spraying operations were well under way, puddles formed under the spray guns. Once more the sheep stopped. Shull and his helpers built a 12-foot ramp with cleats and

sides for the bleating animals to walk on. They walked. The ramp raised them up into the spray without sinking the side pipes into the ground more than a few inches. Some more labor was saved and all was well.

On the first demonstration with the spraying device, Shull averaged more than a thousand head an hour with one man at the controls to turn the power off and on and two men to keep the animals on their way through. The sheep did not handle easily, and the entomologist is convinced that he can run another 200 an hour through when he has plenty of help and a good sheep dog to keep the flocks moving.

So far there has been no sheep speedy enough to go through the spray without a thorough wetting. Once the chemical is in her wool, the tick kill is assured for at least two months, maybe more. Scientists are not yet sure just what the time limit on DDT's activity really is. They are sure that sheep sprayed in the fall for sheep ticks are still free from the parasites the following spring. Autumn sprays last year definitely proved that to everyone's satisfaction when sheep turned up this spring still free of their tormentors. If

such an active period for DDT can be depended on, it means almost complete freedom from wood ticks for an entire season as that parasite's period of activity is over with the coming of hot weather or about July 1 in most grazing sections.

The campaign is not merely to make the flocks more comfortable. When ticks get on sheep and really go to work, sheepmen know they are going to take a loss that gets into sizable figures. Animals die from tick paralysis in too many cases, or flies and maggots get into the wool made bloody from tick bites in the skin. When this occurs, there is often the disagreeable task of cleaning out and caring for the resultant open sore, and there is a bad loss of wool on the animal. The ticks move from adults to lambs at shearing time, and the lambs promptly slow down in their rate of growth. Nobody loves a tick.

So, Shull and his sheepmen friends are after new ideas. Just how far their new spraygun will develop is hard to predict. Already they are thinking of one that will turn off and on automatically, spraying when a sheep is in the line of fire, turning off when the ani-

(Continued on page 35)



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WED. AUG. 21:

SUFFOLKS, SUFFOLK-HAMPSHIRE
CROSSBREDS, COLUMBIAS, CORRIE DALES
COTSWOLDS, LINCOLNS, PANAMAS
COLUMBIA-RAMBOUILLET CROSSBREDS
LINCOLN-RAMBOUILLET CROSSBREDS

Wool in Review

WHILE activity started in Washington during May looking toward the establishment of some type of a program to insure a continuing wool industry, the market itself was a quiet affair. Shearing in some sections of the West was delayed during the early part of the month by cold weather, in some parts heavy snows; shipments of wool were also held up during the rail embargo (May 9 - 13) and during the rail strike; the shortage of soft coal curtailed operations in some plants and reduced buying of both domestic and foreign wools; and trading in domestic wools continued slow throughout the month. However, there seems to be ground for opinions previously reported on this page that a good spot is developing for domestic wools.

The consumption of apparel wools continues high. The Commercial Bulletin estimates that around 500 million pounds of wool will have been used during the first six months of this year, with about 400 million pounds of that total having foreign origin. "Quiet conditions of trading in the market here (Boston) the past month or six weeks would seem inconsistent with such mill absorption," the Commercial Bulletin of May 18 states. "The explanation seems to be that mills have been getting foreign wool in large quantity since the fall, a great deal of which was purchased enroute and not contributing to activity in the spot market. Statistics both on shipments to this country and on unsold stocks of dealers bear out such deductions. . . . Figures indicate that mills in recent months have become temporarily well stocked with foreign wool. Except for the scarce and choicer wools, the mill demand has become less imperative. On the other hand, the smaller unsold holdings of dealers on May 1 together with little buying abroad generally and poor prospects for much good colonial wool for many months, point to a waning of supplies for continued extraordinary use of foreign wool. . . . Thus domestic wool, though bought very conservatively to date, apparently must be taken by mills in considerable volume before many months."

Holdings of importers of all types of

foreign wools on May 1, 1946, totaled 80,734,291 pounds as against 100,209,203 pounds on April 1, the decrease being 20 per cent. Further indications of the slowing up of imports lie in reports that supplies in Australia are diminishing rapidly as a result of a larger than expected demand from Russia, Japan, and Continental European countries. (Russia is reported also buying wool in South America at prices slightly higher than those offered by the U.S.A.) United States buyers are very critical of the way the Australian wool is being handled, largely because they have been given no definite information on what volume of their orders since last August, will finally arrive in this country. Present guesses are that ultimately only 60 per cent of such orders will be filled. A request has recently been made of the British Wool Control that this country's orders be completed before further sales to any other country.

A news item out of London on May 22 indicates that American wool interests will be invited to name someone to represent them on a consulting committee to work with the United Kingdom Wool Disposals, Ltd., which will handle the disposal of the British wool stockpile along with the marketing of new clips. The bulletin of the International Secretariat, issued at London on April 29, also states that consideration is being given to the possibility of Argentina, Uruguay, and Chile, joining the Secretariat.

Texas Wools

While we are not entirely clear on the situation in regard to warehouses holding more than 20 per cent of their accumulated wools unsold, a recent statement is that J. M. Lea of San Angelo, is handling the sale of these wools (at $\frac{1}{4}$ of a cent a pound) which meets the requirement of the Commodity Credit Corporation for the continuation of such warehouses as primary wool handlers. Practically all of the 1943 eight and 12 months' wools of average to good quality have been moved, though some defective lots are still unsold. Some buying of 1944 and '45

wools is also reported, with those of the latter year moving more rapidly. Short wools of this year's clip are 'clear, light and beautiful and far more attractive than those wools out of all 3 previous clips,' the Commercial Bulletin states, "and there is good demand for them."

Western Appraisals

Up to May 17, a total of 36,659,709 pounds of the 1946 clip had been appraised for purchase by the C. C. C. On the same date in 1945, a total of 46,079,932 pounds had been appraised. Some graded staple Idaho wools, according to the Production and Marketing Administration of the U.S.D.A., had been appraised at the following grease prices: Fine, shrinking 61 and 66 per cent, 46.02 and 40.12 cents, respectively; half-blood good French staple, shrinking 55 per cent, 53.10 cents; quarter-blood, shrinking 46 per cent 52.92 cents; three-eighths, shrinking 50 per cent, 54 cents. Original-bag Wyoming bulk fine wools have been appraised at 46.20, average French original-bag bulk fine wools at a price range from 53.70 to 48.30 cents, depending on the shrinkage.

M. A. P.

The end of the long and heated controversy between wool manufacturers and the Office of Price Administration over M.A.P. (the Maximum Average Price regulation which requires manufacturers to produce the same ratio of low to high-priced garments as they did in 1943,) apparently is in sight. The bill to extend the life of the Emergency Price Control Act which governs the operations of the O.P.A., as it passed the House killed the M.A.P., and the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, now considering the bill, has taken similar action. If the Senate as a whole supports this position, and the President does not exercise his veto powers on the whole bill, M.A.P. should die June 30, 1946.

Government Auction

At the 26th public auction of government wools conducted by the National Marketing Corporation in Boston on

May 1st, 2,771,021 pounds of wool were sold out of a total offering of 2,948,508 pounds. Prices ranged from a low of 5 cents for a lot of scoured, cotty, burry South American wool to \$1.03 $\frac{3}{4}$ for scoured, 58's-60's, crossbred, staple, Australian wool. The offerings were largely of surplus wools held by the War Assets Administration, although 848 bales of damaged United Kingdom wools were included.

Freight Rates

No Action on Increase Request

DECISION of the Interstate Commerce Commission on the railroads' petition for a 25 per cent increase in freight rates on practically all commodities (Ex Parte 162) will not be given, it is stated, until interested parties in various parts of the country are given an opportunity to be heard.

The Commission held hearings on both Ex Parte 162 and 148 in Washington from May 6 to 10. At that time, the Commission announced that further hearings would be held in Ex Parte 162 and, therefore, most of the testimony put in dealt with Ex Parte 148. It is expected, although not definitely announced, that the Commission will make effective the 6 per cent increase on most commodities and that of 3 per cent on agricultural products including wool and livestock which the decision in Ex Parte 148 granted, but which have been suspended from time to time since April, 1943, until after full hearings on the request for the 25 per cent increase.

Traffic Manager Charles E. Blaine appeared for the American National Livestock and the National Wool Growers Association at the Washington hearings in opposition to the requested increases, and the Department of Agriculture also opposed them.

Court Sustains Class Rates

A three-judge federal court on May 9, 1946, upheld the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission in the general class rate investigation (No. 28300) announced on May 15, 1945. This decision lowered class rates in the South and West around 10 per cent and raised them about that much in the North and East. The rates were to take effect January 1, this year, but nine northern and eastern states asked the

federal courts to set aside the Commission's order, and an injunction was issued holding up the effectiveness of the new rates until the court heard the case. Unless the case is further appealed, these rates should now become effective.

Make Your Reservations Early

All those planning on attending the National Ram Sale in Salt Lake City, Utah, August 20 and 21, should make their hotel reservations early, as accommodations are still hard to get.

SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

1946

July 9: Arizona Wool Growers' Convention, Flagstaff.
July 22-24: Colorado Wool Growers' Convention, Denver, Colorado.
July 25: Northern Colorado Hampshire Sale, Greeley, Colo.
July 30-31: San Angelo (Texas) Sheep Show and Sale.
August 7: Idaho Ram Sale, Filer.
August 13-14: New Mexico Ram Sale, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
August 16: Oregon Ram Sale, Pendleton.
August 20-21: National Ram Sale, North Salt Lake, Utah.
September 24-25: Wyoming Ram Sale, Casper.
September 28: Pocatello (Idaho) Ram Sale.
October 4: Craig (Colorado) Ram Sale.
October 5-12: Pacific International Livestock and Wool Show, Portland, Oregon.
November 16-24: Grand National Livestock Exposition, San Francisco.
November 22: California Wool Growers' Convention, San Francisco.
November 30-December 7: International Livestock Stock Exposition, Chicago.

1947

January 8-10: American National Livestock Convention, Phoenix, Arizona.
January 10-18: National Western Stock and Wool Show, Denver, Colo.
January 26-30: National Wool Growers' Convention, and American Wool Council Meeting, San Francisco, California.

Idaho Ram Sale

THE Idaho State Ram Sale will be held August 7 at the fairgrounds at Filer, Idaho. This is the 25th annual event and as the silver anniversary it marks the quarter of a century of an event promoting breeding of better sheep.

The Ram Sale Committee composed of R. S. Blastock, chairman, of Filer, H. L. Finch, Soda Springs, Dr. S. W. McClure, Bliss, and E. F. Rinehart, Extension Animal Husbandman of the University of Idaho, in preparing for this year's showing and sale, promise the industry an event of outstanding attractions. All entries consigned will be reviewed and only the very select will be accepted. In addition to this sale a few educational features will be presented showing the sheepmen the value of good breeding.

In view of this being the 25th annual, or the silver anniversary, it is expected that a large number of sheepmen from all over the state will be in attendance to participate in the several special features and events that will be part of the day's program.

Colorado Hampshire Sale

SEVENTY-FIVE top quality Hampshires will be sold at the first annual Northern Colorado Hampshire Sheep Sale and Show, July 25, 1946, at the Weld County Fair Grounds, Greeley, Colorado. Consignments, which include 40 rams and 35 ewes, will come from 17 breeders in Colorado, Wyoming, and Missouri.

The sale follows the annual meeting of the Colorado Wool Growers Association in Denver on July 22-24. Sale catalogs may be obtained by writing Ward R. Smith, Route 1, Fort Collins, Colorado. The Greeley Chamber of Commerce will entertain buyers and consignors at dinner on the evening of July 24, and on the day following the sale, July 26, all out of state buyers are invited to be guests of the Greeley Junior Chamber of Commerce on a free tour through the Rocky Mountain National Park. Reservations for the dinner and trip should be filed with Dee J. Poole, Greeley, Colorado.

California Ram Sale

GOOD weather, big crowds, and an overall average of \$9.36 per head higher than 1945 prices were features of the 26th annual California Ram Sale at Galt on May 13 and 14.

At the 1945 sale, a Hampshire stud ram brought the top price; however, at this year's sale it was a Suffolk which scored the top of \$625. This stud ram came from Idaho and went back to Idaho. He was sold by Charles Howland and Sons, Cambridge, to B. B. Burroughs, Homedale. R. W. Hogg & Sons, Salem, Oregon, as in the 1945 sale, sold the top Hampshire stud ram, purchased by Walter P. Hubbard, Junction City, Oregon for \$500. R. W. Hogg & Sons also tied with the University of California in selling the highest priced pen of Hampshire rams. Both lots sold at \$130 per head, the Hogg rams going to Pierre Harguindeguy, Fresno, California, and the University rams to William Barber, Jr., Santa Rosa, California.

A Corriedale stud ram consigned by the University of Wyoming was purchased for \$350, by Leslie L. and Lee Crane, Santa Rosa, California.

A total of 1837 rams and ewes brought

\$117,424.50, an average of \$69.08 per head compared to a 1945 sale average of \$59.72 for 1810 rams and ewes. Averages for each breed are shown in the table.



Top ram at the 1946 California Ram Sale, a Suffolk stud sold by Charles Howland & Sons of Cambridge, Idaho, to B. B. Burroughs of Homedale, Idaho, for \$625.

Col. Arthur A. Thompson, Lincoln, Nebraska, again cried the sale in his usual efficient manner, and was ably assisted in the ring by Nelson Johnson of Texas and R. F. Miller, University of California.

E. E. M.

SALE AVERAGES, 1946-1945

BREEDS		1946		1945	
	No.	Avg. Price		No.	Avg. Price
HAMPSHIRE:					
Stud Rams	23	\$216.85		19	\$178.90
Range Rams	760	67.18		736	66.19
SUFFOLKS:					
Stud Rams	17	203.00		20	127.75
Range Rams	448	69.72		484	56.39
CORRIE DALES:					
Stud Rams	9	171.11		9	119.44
Range Rams	119	51.98		124	48.42
RAMBOUILLETS:					
Stud Rams	3	125.00		5	92.00
Range Rams	34	39.50		55	36.71
ROMELDALES:					
Stud Rams	1	75.00		2	157.00
Range Rams	44	34.55		75	39.57
SOUTH DOWNS:					
Stud Rams	1	125.00		2	51.25
Range Rams	13	37.00		16	43.85
ROMNEY'S:					
Stud Rams	4	157.50		3	168.33
Range Rams	20	34.55		8	76.25

At the 1945 sale a total of 89 Corriedale yearling ewes sold for an average price of \$38.83; 136 Hampshire ewes brought an average of \$35.95; and 25 Suffolk ewes, \$46.20.

At the 1946 sale a total of 70 Corriedale ewes sold for an average price of \$28.16. A total of 151 Hampshire ewes averaged \$40.60; 55 Suffolk ewes, \$52.74; 30 Romeldale ewes, \$28.16; 7 Ramboillet ewes averaged \$30.71; 2 Southdown ewes, \$37.50; and 5 Romney ewes, \$32.66.

Far West Sheep Dog Trials

THE far western sheep dog trial held at Galt, California, on May 12, prior to the California Ram Sale, is an exhibition growing in popularity. Attendance was heavier than ever at this ninth annual event.

As at last year's trials, James Palmer, Dixon, California, again exhibited the dog taking top honors. However, his dog "Nell," who won first place last year, had an off day and failed to place. It was Palmer's dog, "Tweed," who won the championship and a \$50 cash prize for her work on the difficult course.

Each competing dog is required to lead sheep around various obstacles on the field, and others who were outstanding were "Carlo," owned by Kenneth Roscoe, Petrolia, California; "Sweep," owned by Wesley Wooden, Birds Landing, California; and "Jane," owned by Dick McCloskey, Dixon, California.

Cowboy songs and Scotch bag pipe music added to the festivities.

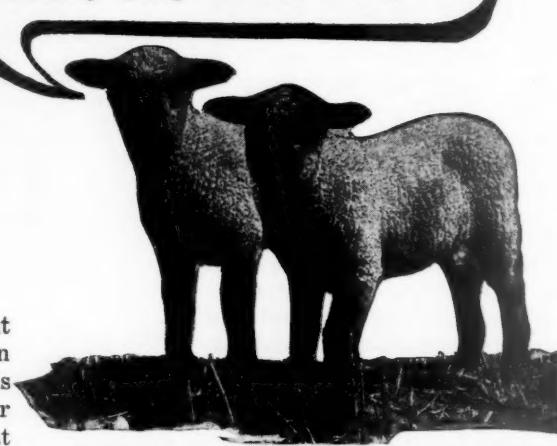
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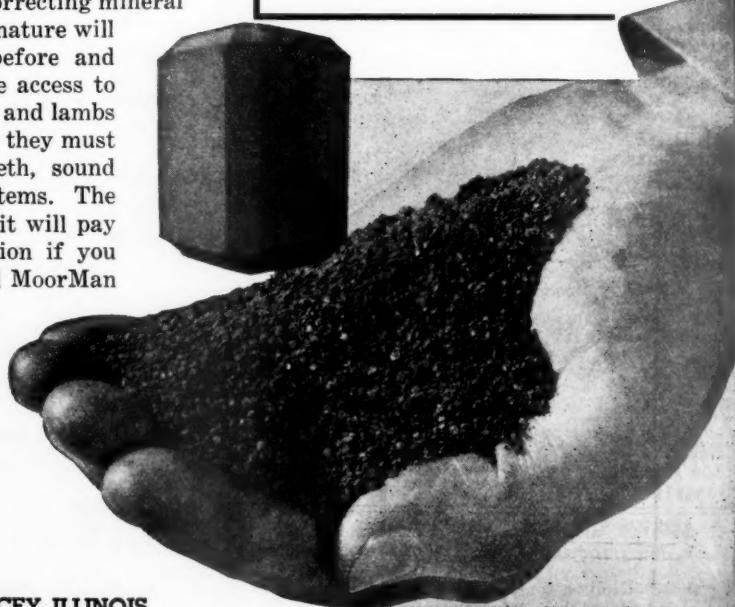
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It's also extremely important to start correcting mineral deficiency as early in the lamb's life as nature will permit. Feed minerals to the ewe before and after lambing and let your lambs have access to it from the start. That way, both ewes and lambs get an adequate supply of the minerals they must have to build strong bones, good teeth, sound bodies and vigorous reproductive systems. The experience of hundreds indicates that it will pay you well to adopt this simple protection if you haven't already done so. Ask your local MoorMan dealer for complete information or write to the address below if you can't locate him.



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Lamb Market Reviews and Trading Activities

Week Ending May 4

RECEIPTS of lambs at the principal markets dropped off sharply the first week of May, indicating that as many as possible were marketed in April before subsidy payments were reduced. Feedlot lambs were mostly on a cleanup basis with few strictly good to choice kinds offered. Except at southern and west coast markets, the movement of spring lambs was small. The decreased receipts offered sold at prices 25 to 75 cents higher than the previous week. Small supplies of slaughter ewes sold steady to 25 cents higher while shearing and feeding lamb prices were little changed. Good to choice wooled slaughter lambs, with most loads carrying a medium end, usually sold from \$15 to \$16, a late top in Chicago being \$16.65. Medium to good wooled lambs including some from wheat pastures sold mostly from \$13.25 to \$15.25. Spring lambs sold from \$17 down. Wooled slaughter ewes topped at \$9 while shorn kinds sold up to \$7.50.

Week Ending May 11

Scarcity and good demand the second week of May were responsible for boosting fed lamb prices to the highest level since 1929. Some markets reported salable receipts smaller than for any week since last August, with the exception of the strike period. Most principal markets showed price gains on slaughter lambs of 50 cents to \$1.50 and some corn belt markets showed increases up to \$2. Bulk of the good and choice fed wooled lambs sold from \$16 to \$17.75. Good and choice grades of fed clipped lambs sold from \$15.25 to \$17.25. Medium and good shorn lambs brought mostly \$13.50 to \$15.25. Good and choice spring lambs in light supply sold from \$16.50 to \$17.50. Wooled slaughter ewes sold up to \$9.50 while shorn kinds sold from \$7.50 to \$8.50.

Week Ending May 18

Receipts dwindled at most markets during the week, although Fort Worth's supply was larger than during any previous week of 1946. At Chicago wooled and shorn slaughter lamb prices dropped 25 to 50 cents under the previous week's high, mostly due to lack of finish

Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last		
Total U. S. Inspected	1946	1945
Slaughter, First Four Months	7,350,182	6,925,543
Week Ended	May 25	May 26
Slaughter at 32 centers	224,044	397,571
Chicago Average Lamb Prices (Wooled): **		
Good and Choice	\$ 16.96	15.98
Medium and Good	15.42	14.88
New York Av. Western Dressed Lamb Prices*		
Choice, 30-40 pounds	27.00	26.50
Good, 30-40 pounds	25.50	25.00
Commercial, All Weights	23.50	23.00
Weight, Yield and Cost of Sheep and Lambs Slaughtered—April		
Average live weight (pounds)	95.3	96.8
Average yield (per cent)	46.0	46.0
Average cost per 100 lbs. to packers (\$)	14.22	14.81
Federally Inspected Slaughter—April		
Cattle	715,000	979,000
Calves	445,000	477,000
Hogs	3,858,000	3,066,000
Sheep and Lambs	1,736,000	1,507,000

*These carcass prices reported by the Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, are ceiling prices. Ceiling prices on lamb and mutton carcasses and most wholesale cuts were raised 50 cents per hundred pounds effective March 11, 1946.

**These averages do not include the subsidy of \$2.65 on lambs over 90 lbs., and \$2 on lambs weighing 65 to 90 lbs. paid direct to the producer selling sheep and lambs to an authorized slaughterer for slaughter. The 95-cent subsidy allowed slaughterers to withdraw August 5, 1945, when the sheep and lamb subsidy became effective, and therefore is not reflected in 1946 prices.

on the offerings. The week's top at that market was \$17.35 for good and choice Nebraska fed wooled lambs and \$18 for a few lots of good and choice native spring lambs. At Denver, top price for the week was \$17, paid for some Wyoming lambs scaling over 100 pounds. Other lots of good wooled lambs sold in Denver from \$16.50 to \$16.85. At Fort Worth, good and choice spring lambs sold from \$14 to \$15.25, while at Omaha, good and choice fed wooled lambs and springers sold up to \$17. Wooled slaughter ewes sold downward from \$9.50 in Chicago; \$8 to \$8.75 in Denver; \$8.50 in Fort Worth; and \$8.75 in Omaha. Good and choice shorn lambs sold up to \$15.25 in Fort Worth, while good to choice shearing and feeding lambs brought \$15.50 to \$16 in Omaha.

Week Ending May 25

At Chicago, good and choice fed wooled lambs sold up to \$17.35 while a small lot of good and choice native springers brought \$18. Wooled slaughter ewes topped on this market at \$9.50, while shorn kinds sold at \$8.25. Freshly shorn to number one pelted clipped lambs sold at \$16.

At Denver, best shorn slaughter lambs sold during the week at \$16.25, while good and choice wooled slaughter ewes brought \$8.50 to \$8.75 with shorn kinds at \$5 to \$7.50. Good to choice spring lambs made \$15 to \$15.25 in Portland and up to \$15.50 in San Francisco. Good shorn ewes sold in Portland at \$5.25 to \$5.50 and medium to good kinds sold in San Francisco from \$4.50 to \$5. Good and choice spring lambs were quoted in Ogden at \$16 to \$16.50 during the week.

1945 Production and Prices

Estimated 1945 production of nearly 2 billion pounds of sheep and lambs, while only 1 per cent below 1944 production was the smallest since 1937. Average 1945 farm price for lambs was \$13 per hundred; for sheep \$6.40 per hundred (both averages without subsidy payments effective August 5, 1945).

Custom Slaughtering Order

The O.P.A. issued an order, effective May 16, designed to discourage custom slaughtering. Some retailers, in order to obtain supplies, have been purchasing live lambs and paying packers a fee for performing the slaughtering. It has been claimed that the cost to the retailer in this custom slaughtering procedure has, in many instances, exceeded wholesale ceiling prices for dressed lamb. The O.P.A. orders will require packers to reimburse retailers any

amount by which the regular payment, plus the slaughtering fee, exceeds average wholesale prices.

Lamb Contracting

Reports of lamb contracting in Wyoming around Casper and Buffalo indicate that prices paid during May on lambs for fall delivery are running from \$13.50 to \$14.50 per hundred. Many of these will probably be feeder lambs, and some will carry a fat end. It is reported also that contracts in the San Luis Valley of Colorado have run up to \$14.50 per hundred. Yearling ewes in the wool have been contracted up to \$18 per head in Wyoming, according to information received in this office. Replacement ewes are selling at high prices due to the heavy demand and shortages because of the large slaughter of ewe lambs for several years past. Good ewe lambs in Montana for fall delivery are reported being contracted at \$15 per hundred.

E. E. M.

that each is dependent on the other. It is just as foolish for a producer to let one buyer alone appraise and put a price on his livestock as it would be for a buyer to say to a producer, "Send us your stock and we will pay you what you ask."

It is to be expected that a processor will use every effort possible to buy as cheap as he can; for this he should not be condemned as it is only natural—we would all do the same thing. It is logical then to assume that any means a buyer can use to lower the prices at the central markets would be expected, because, remember, the central markets establish the "Yard Stick" of values.

Now, this statement calls for a question: What influence does direct purchases made by the processor at your ranch or feed lot have on the central market? There is only one answer: That purchase detracts from that particular processor's needs and lessens his aggressiveness as a buyer at the central market, which in turn lowers the price structure at the market, and in turn lowers the value of what you have left to sell.

Nothing is accomplished by condemning a buyer for not paying enough. It is his business to buy as cheap as he can. To offset this, it is up to the producer to put himself in position where he can have a fair balance of this trading power. The only solution is in the hands of the producer and feeder—and that is consistent patronage of the central market, where salesmen by training, experience and judgment are in position to cope with the buying power of the processors; salesmen whose business it is to study and know markets and market conditions. The less stock sold direct to the processors, the more competition you will direct to the central markets. If the central markets and the present marketing system are to survive and continue to be of benefit to the producer, it will require more interest on the part of the producers throughout the country. Otherwise, the processors will gradually gain control of the fat cattle and fat lamb market, such as they now hold on the hog market. In 1944, the processors purchased direct 36.20 per cent of the federally inspected slaughter of sheep and lambs. There is no question that the large volume of direct purchases had a bearing on the market; whether this was a benefit to the producer is for you to decide.

Observations on Livestock Marketing

Following are excerpts from an article written by a man who has observed livestock marketing for approximately 50 years. The author desires no credit and, consequently, did not include his name. It is his belief that the trend away from central livestock markets is causing a price decline which could be avoided if more and better animals were concentrated on the central markets. We are, therefore, presenting his views to our readers.

DIRECT purchase of fat cattle, hogs, and sheep by processors is a controversial question. However, an impartial discussion of the principles involved might result in good to the producer or feeder, and at the same time do no harm to the processor.

The packing industry represents a vast investment in capital and equipment necessary for the processing and distribution of meats to the consuming public. Its payroll is one of the largest, and its profits, for the sum invested, are small. In fact, the packing industry performs a service that the livestock

producer cannot get along without. On the other hand, there would be no packing industry without the producer of livestock. Therefore, both are entirely dependent on each other.

But, the processor's and producer's interests are different. It is to the processor's interest to purchase his supplies as cheap as possible. On the other hand, it is to the interest of the producer to sell his livestock as high as he can. By meeting on a common ground where buyer and seller can match their wits and judgment and compete against each other, values are established.

What is a fat steer, fat hog, or fat lamb worth? You may figure what it has cost to raise and feed the animal, or you may compare your offerings with those of your neighbor who recently sold, but in the end you are going to look to your nearest central market quotations as a basis to appraise the value of your steer, hog, or lamb. Now, keep in mind that the interests of the processor and producer are different in every respect, in spite of the fact

Denver

APPROXIMATELY 32,000 head of sheep were on sale at Denver for the month ending May 31, 1946. Compared to 88,000 head for the same month of 1945, a decrease of 56,000 head was noted. For the year to date 563,000 head were received, compared with 630,000 head for the same period in 1945 or a decrease of 67,000 head.

The market for the first week under review worked progressively higher. At the start, good and choice wooled lambs sold largely at \$16.50 and then \$16.75 was paid. On the mid-week session, five doubles of good and choice 94- to 110- pound Colorados reached \$16.90 and, finally, one load scored \$17.10. This was the highest price paid locally since 1929.

At the low time the previous week, similar lambs could not beat \$15.35. Most good 94-pound wooled lambs closed at \$16.75. All sales were on a flat basis with shippers taking the bulk of the supply. Good and choice 87-pound clipped lambs with Nos. 1 and 2 pelts reached \$16.15 before the full advance had been realized, the closing run being practically all wooled. Spring lambs went up at least 25 cents early, but lost most of the advance. Good and choice kinds at \$16.00 late were comparable with \$16.25 kinds early. The supply of this class was confined to truck-ins. Wooled yearlings, usually sorted from shipments of old-crop lambs, sold in a small way at \$12.50 to \$14. Other classes were scarce and showed little or no change. Recently shorn slaughter ewes at \$5 to \$6.50 graded common and medium. The inside price also took a 2-load shipment of Californias with No. 2 pelts. A deck of aged Utah slaughter bucks with No. 2 pelts sold at \$4.65. Most good and choice shearing lambs brought \$15 to \$15.25.

Local salable receipts during the next week continued to dwindle, hardly enough sheep and lambs arriving late to make a market. With the exception of a strong to 25 cents higher trend on slaughter spring lambs, no price change developed. Wyomings averaging 101 and 102 pounds topped at \$17, and 105 pound Colorados brought \$16.85. A few other loads of mostly good wooled lambs sold at \$16.50 to \$16.75. Wooled truck-ins at \$16 to 16.25 graded mostly good. Shorn lambs with No. 1 pelts also brought \$16.25, two loads making this price and no strictly good and

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choice kinds arriving. A 4-load string of medium and good clips, with No. 1 pelts sold at \$15.85. Sizable lots of trucked-in lambs with Nos. 2 and 3 pelts went for local slaughter at \$15 to \$15.25. Good and choice trucked in native spring lambs touched \$16.50, regaining the 25-cent break late the previous week. A few shorn yearlings from lamb shipments went to killers at \$12.50 to \$13.00. Ewes were unusually scarce. Killers picked up a few good and choice wooled ewes at \$8.50 to \$8.75, along with comparable grade freshly shorn offerings at \$7 to \$7.25. A deck of aged slaughter bucks at \$5 had fresh-shorn pelts. There was ready outlet for shearing lambs at all times, good and choice kinds continuing to sell largely at \$15 to \$15.25, and reaching \$15.50.

Early in the last week under review a load of good and choice 85-pound shorn lambs with No. 2 pelts sold to a local killer at \$16.25, the top for old-crop offerings. Truck-ins also made this price. Sizable lots of good and choice trucked-in spring lambs, largely from the Arkansas Valley, Colorado, averaging 76 to 93 pounds, brought \$15.25. A few wooled yearlings were picked up at \$13 to \$14, with most shorn

kinds going at \$12 to \$13. The top on wooled slaughter ewes remained at \$8.75 and no shorn ewes passed \$7.50. One small lot of 75-pound new-crop feeding lambs went to the country at \$17.25.

Jackie O'Keefe

Chicago

A combination of conditions and circumstances in May never before experienced in the livestock trade resulted in the lowest marketing for that month in over 60 years. Liberal federal subsidies in April accelerated the movement of lambs to market and left a surprising deficit in May. This was a feature of the market that was not unexpected. The April slaughter under federal inspection was a record for that month but the May kill was relatively small because the old lambs had been about all disposed of and the new crop in the central area was not yet available. There were approximately 61,000 sheep received at Chicago in May, compared with 189,120 in May last year, and 375,000 in 1911, which

was a record for the month. The subsidy paid for lambs in the month was \$2.65 for weights over 90 pounds and \$2 for 65 to 90 pounds. Feeders made an effort to get their weights over the 90-pound line.

A total of 756,000 for the first five months of the year shows a decrease of 130,000 compared with last year while at 20 markets the decrease is 540,000. Regarding the immediate future there is no prospect that the supply will be materially increased on this market. The subsidy payments will continue through June and then may be suspended entirely, as it has been recommended that all livestock subsidies be withdrawn at the end of that month.

During the month the market has been unusually erratic and uneven in spite of the small supply. With a ceiling on the dressed product, the big packers were not anxious to buy at the prevailing prices. About 30 per cent of the receipts went to shippers during the month.

The tail end of the winter fed lambs trickled in and met with a favorable demand, the best selling up to \$17.75 in the middle of the month. This is the highest paid in May since 1920

when no bonus was paid. Prices fluctuated surprisingly but the average was well up to a profitable level. Wooled lambs gradually decreased in numbers late in the month with sales generally at \$16.50 to \$17.35 and the closing top at \$17. At the close of April the best lambs were quoted at \$16.10. Most of the month the difference between woolled and shorn lambs was unusually narrow, partly because the woolled were not so well finished as they should have been and pelts were not attractive. The scarcity of pork and beef strongly improved the demand for dressed lamb, making the shorn stock of good quality most desirable.

A liberal percentage of the month's supply came from the wheat pastures of the Southwest and the lambs were not as well finished as usual. This was a disappointment to buyers whose demand called for top quality. Late in the month choice shorn lambs sold up to \$17 and a large percentage went at \$16 to \$16.75, depending on the condition of the pelt. Most of the less attractive lambs of lighter weights sold at \$15 to \$16, with the overall average for the month around \$16.25. Farmers in nearby territory were pretty well

cleaned out in April and contributed comparatively few in May.

The supply of spring lambs during the month was exceptionally small although attractive prices were paid for all that had a good finish. Late in the month Greeks paid up to \$19 for a few of the hothouse variety but most sales were at \$17 to \$18 and lower qualities down to \$16.

Older sheep met with a strong demand all month, there being a broad and reliable inquiry for ewes of light and medium weights that showed a good finish. The best sold up to \$9.75 with the wool on. Most sales were \$8 to \$9, with shorn at \$6 to \$8. Wethers were very scarce and quotable at \$8 to \$13, with the yearling class at \$13 to \$15. There were no feeder lambs on sale during the month and not much inquiry.

Although the movement of feeder lambs into eight states for the first four months of the year shows slight increase over last year, farmers in the Central West are reported to be unusually cautious about making new contracts in the West and prefer to wait till after the first of July when there is a prospect that the market controls will be

eliminated. No California lambs were received here during the month, as all were consumed on the western coast.

Frank E. Moore

Ogden

RECEIPTS at Ogden during May amounted to 40,586 head as compared with 62,019 head in May, 1945, and brought the total for the first five months to 227,795 head compared to 206,851 last year. Of this number only 37,580 head were from California; during the first five months of 1945, receipts included 56,430 from that state.

On May 3, the first Californias were sold at Ogden with five doubles at \$15.65 and one load of 67-pound feeders at \$15.25. On May 5 six doubles brought \$15.75 with a light sort on three cars. May 7 five cars sold at \$15.75, lightly sorted. All these first shipments were shipped by C. M. French from Athena, Calif.

On May 13 five doubles of Californias sold at \$16.60, averaging from 85 to 91 pounds. These set a new high at Ogden, the previous high being \$16.25 set on

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ment prescribed "maximum permissible" average drove cost adopted by OPA as an anti-inflation measure. At such times our buyers can make purchases only when the purchases — grade and price considered — result in a lowering of the average cost of the cattle purchased during the month. When we cannot obtain cattle at prices in line with the "maximum permissible," we cannot engage in normal buying and processing operations until the start of a new monthly accounting period. Thus there are times when being law-abiding actually forces us off the market.

Our aim and intent, however, is always to help pro-

vide livestock producers with a market completely responsive to the law of supply and demand. When we can bid the limit warranted by what the ultimate consumers are willing to pay for livestock products, then, but not till then, can livestock producers plan their operations so as to keep them efficient and profitable.

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A. C. Eastwood
President

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July 15, 1945. Good ewes sold at \$6.50.

May 28th the first load of Idaho range lambs sold at \$16.90 and averaged 85.5 pounds and the next day a double of ranch lambs also averaged 93.7 pounds brought \$16.90. A deck of 145-pound ewes sold at \$8, also a new high for ewes. On the last day of the month one double of good to choice 115-pound ewes brought \$8 sorted. Also one load of ranch lambs, 90.7 pounds, sold at \$16.90 with deck of ewes, 147.5 pounds, at \$8.

On June 1, the mark was again broken when two doubles of choice range lambs from Arco, Idaho, weighing 114.8 pounds, sold at \$17.25. With the subsidy, the gross to the grower amounted to \$22.84 per head.

C. R. Knowles,
Traffic Manager

St. Joseph

RECEIPTS for the month of May up to and including the 27th were only 28,719, compared with 106,976 for the entire month of April and 93,164 for May a year ago.

Lamb trading during the month was very uneven, and quality was not up to par. The few loads of woolskins offered sold in a range of \$16 to \$16.75 for the best, and better grades of clips sold \$16 to \$16.50 with others \$15 to \$15.50.

Spring lambs were scarce, with the high point of \$17.50 on the 15th. On the extreme close best on offer sold at \$16.50, with others down to \$16.

The market for ewes closed somewhat higher. On the close best clips sold at \$8.50 and woolskins reached \$9.50.

H. H. Madden

LARGER COMMISSIONS ASKED AT OMAHA

Market agencies at Omaha have petitioned the Production and Marketing Administration of the Department of Agriculture which administers the Packers and Stockyards Act for permission to collect larger commissions on the selling of all classes of livestock and the buying of sheep. Scale of charges now in effect at that market was set up July 29, 1941.

June On The Range

Joe Bush Says—

TO the men who move with the flocks, the move to the summer range is always a pleasant prospect seen from the winter range, and a gratifying realization when knee deep in June he sees about him all that is grand in nature. To live in the mountains in June when the grass is lush and green, when the whispering leaves, the chattering birds, busy with their young, make the music that fills God's vast cathedral of trees, and the magnificent distance of the desert and the foot-hills can be seen from the high elevation of the summer range—what could be more inspiring.

There it is where the flockmaster of the present, like David the shepherd king of Israel, finds his soul restored to peace in the wilderness far from that fitful fever of life men call civilization. There are times when the flockmaster may walk near the valley of death as he finds the green pastures and the still waters to feed and rest his flock when it's June on the range and clouds like great white ships sail in the oceans of space while their shadows shade the mountain peaks.

The herder may not rate A-1 on the credit of The First National—but yonder on the summer range he is part of all there is, part of all he sees, part of all about him—the summer storm, the noon day heat, the cool of the evening when the dusk merges into the night, when the milky way seems rich with cream and the multitude of stars little dabs of golden butter floating in a master churn. 'Tis then the herder spreads his bedroll listening to the many sounds of nature, and drifting into sleep like David of old "fears no evil." The sheep rest on their bedgrounds—his dog's on the alert—God is on his throne and all is well with the world when it's June on the range.

From the high towers of his little camp wagon—his castle near the sky—the herder looks out over the America that is his country, the land and the flag that he and his son have fought for on far off battle fields. To some who live their lives in the densely populated cities there is no frontier—The frontier of America, so they say, is gone, to be seen only in the movies where "bad" men ride and fight with blazing guns; there were some, many of those "bad" men, but for every one of them

The National Wool Grower

there were thousands of busy, peaceful people who came into the West trailing their flocks and herds with seed to plant, with plows lashed to the side of their covered wagons, leaving trails over yesterday's untrod grass—monuments to the American Pioneer that have been shod with steel and concrete by their descendants.

There is a frontier in America — there will be a frontier in America as long as there is room for improvement in the flocks and herds, in all the fields of agriculture, in the fields of communication and transportation; in the relations between labor, industry and the public. On the frontier of America as Joe Bush sees it from his sheep camp on the summer range there is greed, selfishness, intolerance and hate — nations professing acceptance of the teaching of the man of Galilee but still making war to extend "their spheres of influence," wars that bring an aftermath of hunger, want and misery to women and children.

Joe Bush says the pioneers found a desert that was clean and in order—in which there were no brothels, no slums, no gambling hideouts. Indians that made trouble for pioneers have been regulated to reservations.

But riding the range of the country, north, south, east and west there is class prejudice, bigotry, strife between labor and industry, and Government agencies that hinder rather than help those who want to expand and extend. Joe Bush says the possible wealth produced by labor and industry cooperating is far more important to the welfare of the Americans on the frontier of today than the distribution of the wealth of the idle rich.

Postscript

Joe Bush says the hungry in Europe with just a crust are not as poor as those in America who have a loaf and still want more.

Peter Spraynozzle
Of Sheepfold, Utah, U.S.A.

666

Benzene hexachloride, a new English insecticide known as 666, may have possibilities for control of animal parasites, according to a preliminary experiment conducted by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Raymond Roberts, entomologist for the Station at Weslaco, reports that 666, though relatively slow in action, proves effective in the control of dog fleas and ticks.

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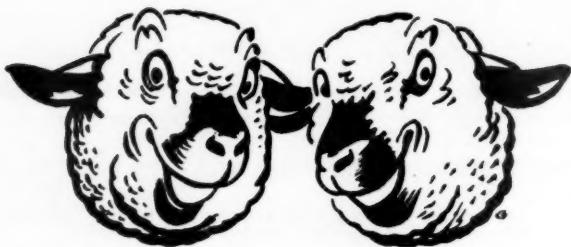
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The Compleat Rancher

WE hope we won't be accused of heresy and sent to the "dog house" for any length of time, but the fact is that we are including a cattle book in our list of good reading for sheepmen this month — THE COMPLEAT RANCHER by Russell H. Bennett. There are extenuating circumstances—first, it is very readable; and second, we wish there were a similar book on the sheep industry.

Written primarily for those planning to venture into the cattle business, it gives a very comprehensive idea of what may be expected in the way of work and enjoyment. While not a text book, in our opinion, it deserves a place on the required reading list of animal husbandry classes, because it gives the prospective rancher the benefit of someone's actual experience and observation, things hard to get, as most people actually engaged in the livestock business do not write about it.

The author, Russell Bennett, a native son of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and a mining engineer of wide experience and travel, has evidently found the cattle business a satisfactory way of life in his later years. THE COMPLEAT RANCHER, however, does not attempt to convert others to that life. Its aim, apparently, is only to help the prospective rancher make the proper decision.

Also we believe old-timers in the livestock business will find Mr. Bennett's philosophical comments interesting though sometimes provocative.

THE COMPLEAT RANCHER is very enjoyable reading. It retails at \$2.75 a copy.

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Stockyards

Grazing Service Criticized

(Continued from page 11)

Mr. Rooney of New York. With regard to the statement of the gentleman from Utah a while ago, is it not the fact that there are a considerable number of large ranches interested in this Grazing Service and that according to the figures of the Grazing Service itself 75 per cent of the stock on this public range is owned by 23 per cent of the licensees or permittees?

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. That is the record. You cannot go behind the record. You can talk about how many people there are, but when you find the 75 per cent of the cattle and sheep are owned by 23 per cent of the people, that is the answer.

Mr. GRANGER: That is the very question at issue and that is the reason we had the Taylor Grazing Act passed. It was to protect 80 per cent of the small operators against these people the gentleman refers to. If you continue to do as you do in this bill, you will throw the whole thing over to these people you are talking about. That is the reason the bill was passed originally. It was not passed out of sympathy for Ed Taylor. It was passed because there had been a demand for the last 20 years that something be done to protect the small operator.

Mr. TABER of New York. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. TABER. I have been told that the fee that is paid for sheep is 1 cent per month and 5 cents for cattle.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. I am ashamed to say that is true.

Mr. TABER: Is that anything like what it ought to be?

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Oh, no; and let me say it is about one-fifth of the charge made by the Forest Service.

Mr. Rooney of New York. A while ago a member in speaking of the Grazing Service referred to the plight of the livestock owner in the West. On page 168 of the printed hearings you will find that in the year 1936 at the time shortly following the inception of the Grazing Service, when the grazing fees were fixed at 1 cent per month for sheep and 5 cents per month for cattle, the price of lambs was \$7.45 and the price of beef cattle \$5.73. At the present time, although there has been no increase whatever in these grazing fees, the price of lambs is \$12.90 and of beef \$12.10.

I wish to further point out that this is not a matter wherein we are trying to harm the small rancher of the West. The members of the advisory boards of the Service are paid \$5 a day by the government to meet and tell the Grazing Service that the ridiculously low grazing fees must not be increased. On top of that, Uncle Sam must pay the cattle barons for attending the meetings so as to keep down the fees.

Mr. Rooney. Does the gentleman dispute the fact that 23 per cent of these permittees own 75 per cent of all the stock? Does the gentleman dispute that?

Mr. BARRETT of Wyoming. What does the gentleman want to do about it? Does he want to socialize the livestock industry?

Mr. ROONEY. If you do not want to answer, that is your privilege.

Mr. BARRETT of Wyoming. I will say to you, that is precisely the same distribution of size classes in the industry as a whole.

Mr. ROONEY. I merely asked the gentleman from Wyoming whether or not that was a fact, that 23 per cent of the permittees own 75 per cent of the stock.

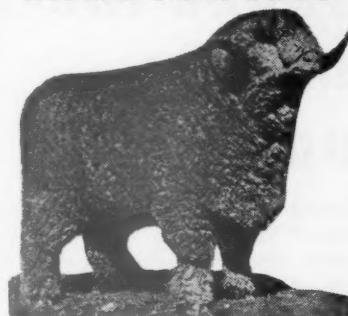
Mr. BARRETT of Wyoming. It is true that we have a few large operators, but that is true in many industries. You have many large operators running on private lands also. You must run a certain number of cattle or sheep to operate economically.

House members from practically every public land state took part in the debate in an attempt to counteract some of the erroneous ideas on the public domain held by members residing farther east. Taking part were Messrs. Harless and Murdock of Arizona, Gillespie and Rockwell of Colorado, Dvorshak of Idaho, Mansfield and D'Ewart of Montana, Bunker of Nevada, Fernandez of New Mexico, Stockman of Oregon, Granger and Robinson of Utah, and Barrett of Wyoming.

These gentlemen pointed out that the public lands included in the Taylor Grazing Districts are really the "dregs" of the federal domain, that is, land good for nothing but grazing and not very good grazing at that; that any improvement made in the productivity of the land would naturally accrue to the government as its owner; that the stockmen using these lands are willing to pay their share of the administrative expenses, but do not want to pay the entire bill for flood control, soil conservation, fish and wildlife undertakings, and other projects. They referred also to the great liquidation in the sheep industry since 1942 due to unprofitable operations, and upheld the principle of democracy involved in the functioning of the advisory boards.

No funds were included in the appropriations for the Interior Department as approved by the House for administering the Jackson Hole (Wyoming) Monument, set up by order of President Roosevelt in 1943. While all attempts to have that action revoked have failed, no money has been appropriated up to the present for handling the land covered. Budget estimates for reclamation and irrigation were also cut down and, indeed, the paring process on the entire bill—about 50 per cent of original estimates—shows what can be done in economizing.

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Around the Range Country

Around the Range Country is the individual sheepman's section of the National Wool Grower and is open for reports of range and livestock conditions and other information or expressions of opinion on problems of interest to sheepmen generally.

The reports of conditions preceding sheepmen's letters in each state in **Around the Range Country** are taken from the telegraphic summaries for the week ending May 21, as published in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, U. S. Department of Commerce, Weather Bureau.

ARIZONA

Cattle moving to higher summer ranges in fair condition. Sheep arriving on summer ranges two weeks earlier than usual, account of drought on lower and moderate elevations.

CALIFORNIA

Grain filling better, account moderate temperatures. Harvesting and haying continued. Pastures and ranges generally short and drying, except on high elevations; feed outlook not good. Weather generally favorable. Rain needed, except for matured grain and grass.

Live Oak, Sutter County May 7, 1946

The weather here is not very good, being worse than the two previous years; feed conditions are likewise bad. The sheep wintered well with sufficient feed on hand, and no greater amount of supplemental feeding was required than the preceding winter.

We are through lambing and have had no losses. We had a good lambing, saving about the same number of lambs per 100 ewes as last year. Adding to the success of our lambing was good weather, and as we have only 300 ewes we do not hire extra help.

The sheep have been shorn, with herders receiving 31 cents per head without board; this compares with 28 cents last year.

We have sufficient herders, but a poor variety of sheep dogs. We are not bothered with coyotes (I have forgotten what one sounds like), as our county trapper has had them cleaned out for two years.



Photo Feuerstein Tarasp-Schuls-Vulpera

Sheep shearing is an important function with the peasants of Tarasp-Schuls-Vulpera in the Lower Engadine, Switzerland, and one in which the entire family takes an interest, even the old ewe; or probably she just wanted to be sure she was "in the act."

My last lambs were sold May 6, and I received wool payment of 45 cents May 7. It seemed a good price and we ran into no government red tape.
Sylvester Counts

San Francisco, San Francisco County May 16, 1946

The following information applies to ranches in upper Sonoma and Southern Mendocino counties where my ranch is located.

Range conditions have been subnormal. The months of January and April, usually two of our wettest months, produced almost no rainfall and January was exceptionally cold. The feed on the range is shorter than usual, but it is of good quality and is maturing very rapidly.

My sheep are in excellent condition, having wintered well with enough feed. We rarely have to use any supplemental feed, as was the case this winter.

Predators are quite prevalent as there is a shortage of trappers. We have sufficient herders, however.

Lambing has been completed with good weather throughout. We saved about the same number of lambs as last year, and had sufficient help. Sheep are being shorn at this time.

A. E. Cooley

Bryon, Contra Costa County May 28, 1946

Lambing started here the latter part of October under ideal conditions as to weather, early rains and early feed; however after the first of January, rain stopped and frost and a cold north wind predominated for almost 50 days. We had sufficient lambing help and saved about the same number of lambs as last year.

My lambs were sold April 10 to Swift and Company, averaging 86 pounds and were raised on range pasture only. I had an average of 110 per cent.

Shorn yearlings are selling as follows: fine wools, \$14 to \$16; and cross-breds, \$15 to \$18.

I received 46½ cents per pound for my wool this year, which tallies with last year's prices. Fleeces averaged \$3.72 which compares with \$3.81 in 1944.

Shearers were paid 31 cents with board this year and 34 cents without board. The contract includes everything except wrangling, netting fences and riding the range.

The predator situation is quite bad here, more so than it has been. If it were not for our trapper, Mr. George F. Morgan of Clayton, California, the

The National Wool Grower

situation would be out of control. This county, Contra Costa, pays a trapper only 9 months out of the year, and Mr. Morgan has been trapping here without pay, because I recently lost 5 large lambs to predators.

The cost of continuing in the sheep business is increasing, and it is necessary for us to keep a strong organization to fight for our problems. I consider our state and National Wool Growers Associations of the utmost importance.

Pyron L. Crosslin

COLORADO

Week cool for best farming activities. Winter wheat and barley heading; other grains stooling; conditions good. Corn planted. Livestock good; movement to summer range continues. Range fair to good. Moisture needed in south and east.

IDAHO

Temperature slightly below normal, except at lower elevations. No measurable precipitation. Dry-land crops and lower ranges generally poor, but fair progress in southern irrigated section. Soil too dry in some eastern districts for germination.

Midvale, Washington County

May 20, 1946

The weather here has been fair since April 1, compared to storms and cold weather last year; feed is good.

The sheep wintered well, but more supplemental feeding was required than the previous winter. The hay was poor, but we did have enough feed.

Lots of storms marked our lambing in March. We saved 130 per cent on the ewes bred last fall. Lambing help was hard to get, but then labor has been hard to get all season.

Sheep were shorn at 22½ cents with shearers' board included. We paid 20 cents without board last year.

Wools were signed up early here due to competition, with no interest charged on advances.

We have sufficient herders now, but the predator situation is very bad.

"Around the Range Country" is like a visit with your neighbors; I enjoy it very much.

Paul H. Holmes

MONTANA

Freezing at most stations Monday. Moderate rain in east; light showers elsewhere. None or little abandonment of spring grains and winter wheat. Plant growth slow. Soil moisture deficient, except in south-central and extreme southeast. Range feed adequate, except short in north-central and most of east. Stock water mostly adequate in west; short in east.

Columbus, Stillwater County May 15, 1946

The range here needs rain, and the feed is shorter than it has been for several years.

We had good lambing weather and plenty of help. We saved a greater number of lambs per 100 ewes than we did last year. Feeder lamb contracts are being made for fall delivery at 13 and 14 cents per pound.

Shearers were paid 25 cents per head including board, which tallies with last year's rates. This includes no labor other than shearing. We have sufficient herders, and the Extension Service has been helping us find sufficient labor.

We have a greater number of coyotes now because there are fewer private hunters.

F. J. Payne

NEVADA

Temperatures near normal, except west, which continues above normal and very dry. Light showers in north, with remainder of state badly needing moisture. Additional reports of frost damage to crops received, but doing well otherwise. Livestock remain in good condition, wth May lamb crops very good.

Rebel Creek, Humboldt County

April 29, 1946

March weather was good this year with very little wind and plenty of moisture. Feed is good although some rain would be in order now.

The sheep came through the winter in good shape. At this writing, lambing has just started and we have plenty of help and good weather.

Sheep have been shorn. Shearers received 39 cents per head without board, this covered all labor except putting them in a big corral.

Coyotes have been very mean so far during lambing.

The cost of operation has gone up, with the spring of 1945 being exceptionally bad. The two previous years were better, as there was more loss in 1945.

Lyle L. Ellison

NEW MEXICO

More rain needed entire state. Nights generally too cool for best growth. Irrigated crops progressing satisfactorily. Ranges and livestock deteriorating. Heavy shipments to pasture elsewhere continues.

OREGON

Wheat and other grains continue good; show little deterioration, although considerable drying of topsoil and rain needed soon to preserve yield. Pastures and ranges becoming dry; livestock doing well. Haying begun in early sections.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Cool nights; little to moderate moisture. Winter grains coming back generally. Spring grains revival still questionable, but drilled grains and those emerging through soil have best appearance. Some alfalfa damaged severely; cutting to prevent further loss. Pastures and range improved.

Edgemont, Fall River County May 18, 1946

Feed and water conditions are excellent in Fall River County; we have had ample rainfall in May.

Lambing losses have been small although we had some cold, wet weather. We had sufficient lambing labor and saved about the same number of lambs as last year.

The 1945 wool clip has been appraised and I received 44 to 49 cents per pound which shows some improvement over last year. A slight gain was registered in fleece prices.

Shearers were paid 25 cents per head without board. We have sufficient herders, but we are not receiving any help from state or government agencies in the labor problem.

Our local association, the Southern Hills Sheep Growers Association, hired a trapper to combat the predator problem with excellent results. This was discontinued last winter, however. This spring we have had a plane to help us.

Thomas L. Seppala

Hoover, Butte County

May 24, 1946

May has been colder than usual with many light growing showers making feed on the range very good. Heavy frosts occurred at intervals from May 6 to 18; however, grass is a month ahead its usual growth in years past.

All of the sheepmen around here tried to lamb earlier than in previous years. Weather during the latter part of March and all through April was more favorable for lambing than it has been thus far in May. From all of my information as a whole, the percentage for lambs saved has been very good—much better than last year.

In regard to labor, in my particular case I cut my herd last fall to where it could be handled with only the help of my family. I employed Mexican Nationals last year and did not feel they were satisfactory.

Coyotes are causing a lot of trouble in this section right now. Sheepmen are forming groups and trying to locate

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dens. However, this practice has not been too successful although some have been found. Some sheepmen have resorted to the spreading of poison. Personally, I am very much against that practice as sheep dogs are hard to raise and train and amateurs handling the poison kill more sheep dogs than coyotes. A state law used to prohibit the use of poison, and I would be tempted to prosecute anyone I found spreading poison on land I control, as livestock as well as dogs have been known to pick it up through careless handling.

An article in a local paper stated that shearing will be 28 cents per head for wool in sack, without board, or 27 cents for the same job when mutton is furnished for every 1,000 head sheared. This is the same price as last year, and the owner furnishes pens and wranglers.

Owing to the open winter, the wool crop looks good as all my sheep are in good condition.

I enjoy the Wool Grower very much and always look for the "Around the Range" letters. I wish more would write.

George W. Shipley

TEXAS

Weather conditions distinctly unfavorable for growing crops and necessary field work. Hail damage widespread, affecting nearly all crops. Washing rains in east-central and northeast; adequate rainfall elsewhere, except showers in northwest not sufficient to break drought. Condition of corn good; progress fair; needs cultivation badly. Condition of winter wheat remains mostly favorable; progress poor; recent showers helped, but hail and drought combined to cause further losses. Harvest of small grains delayed. Ranges and pastures continued to improve in west; excellent conditions elsewhere. Livestock good condition, except in northwest and extreme west.

Brackettville, Kinney County May 23, 1946

Weather and feed conditions are good although we had dry weather until the latter part of April. We had many spring losses because it did not rain early enough.

We had dry lambing weather and were short of help. We marked 19 per cent fewer lambs than we did a year ago. Contracts are being made on lambs for fall delivery at the following prices: \$6 to \$8 per head for fat lambs; and 12 cents per pound for feeder lambs.

The shrinkage on my 1945 wool was 55 per cent, with a gross receipt per pound of 49.50 cents. This was about 1½ cents more than I received a year ago.

Shearers received 16 cents per head without board this year, the same as last year. The labor contract included shearers, two pickup boys and one packer.

The coyote problem is becoming more serious due to lack of trappers.

Stradler & Frerich.

UTAH

Warm, but some frost in higher valleys with little damage. Light showers in central. Summer ranges generally good, but moisture needed. Cattle fairly good. Lambing and sheep shearing more than half finished.

WASHINGTON

Temperatures averaged 4 degrees above normal. No rain in east, inconsequential in west; topsoil drying. Rain needed badly on light marginal lands in wheat belt, elsewhere good growth continues; heading in earlier sections. Good first crop of alfalfa cut in early districts. Pastures good, except in driest sections. Livestock doing well.

WASHINGTON

Riverside, Okanogan County
May 6, 1946

Range conditions are excellent, but we are in dire need of rain. More supplemental feeding was required for my sheep than last winter; however, we did have sufficient feed.

Fewer lambs were born this spring than last, but losses were also fewer. We had excellent lambing weather and plenty of help. The sheep have not been shorn yet. I have sufficient herdsmen.

There are practically no coyotes on my range at the present time.

Emmett Smith

WYOMING

Precipitation general. Field crops retarded by cool weather. Pastures and ranges good. Livestock fair to good. Range lambing in progress.

Presto, The Sheep Are Sprayed!

(Continued from page 18)

mals lag. With this, they say, it will be possible to put the sheep in a pen at one end of the chute, a load of hay at the other, and go on about your chores. The sheep will go through when they get hungry; the automatic spraygun will catch them as they go through, and that will be that. Even Old Sheep can lie in the shade or go out for a flea treatment now and then as he sees fit.

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Modern Meat Methods

(Continued from page 16)

cuts, moist heat. And to make the most out of the meat, cook it at low temperatures.

The advantages of low-temperature cooking were displayed by Miss Irene R. Hansen, attractive Meat Board cooking expert. Two large rib roasts of beef, each weighing 29 pounds 3 ounces originally, roasted before the meeting, were shown to illustrate just what high-and low-temperature cooking does. The roast cooked at 450° for 3½ hours to a rare doneness lost 9 pounds or 30 per cent of weight, while the other one cooked at 250° for 6 hours and 5 minutes to the same degree of doneness (meat thermometers were used in each instance), only lost 4 pounds and 11 ounces or 16 per cent. Tests, Miss Hansen said, proved conclusively that the cost of the extra electricity to cook the roast longer was far below the gain in pounds of meat saved. The roast cooked at the low temperature was evenly done throughout; the fast-cooking one was well done on the outside and rare within.

The demonstration was sponsored by the Livestock Committee of the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce, and James A. Hooper, chairman of this committee and secretary of the Utah Wool Growers, introduced Mr. Tyler.

If such a demonstration comes your way, don't miss it.

Grazing Fees

(Continued from page 12)

any other reasonable standard of measure. It is based upon grossly distorted figures taken from the range-appraisal study. The members of the House subcommittee did not know this. It was not explained to them. No member of that subcommittee was from a public-land state. They were not familiar with the problems and conditions and costs peculiar to the public-land range.

Nine months later, in November 1944, while the war was at its height, the newly appointed Director of Grazing met with the National Advisory Board Council, in Salt Lake City, and without any forewarning, proposed that the grazing fees be trebled, to be effective for the 1945 grazing season, then but a few weeks away. The new schedule of fees was described as an "interim fee" which the Director intended to present to the Secretary of the Interior "for his approval and action." The Director thought that this "interim fee" was so far within the safe limits of what he considered to be the value of the forage in the grazing districts that no further range study was needed at that time. The Council was invited to send a small committee to confer with the Secretary in the short interval before the new fee schedule should be announced and made effective.

The Council unanimously opposed the Director's proposal, and offered counter-proposals of its own. These were not acceptable to the Director, who insisted upon his own course of action. Members of the Council, and the individual and organized livestock men generally, then appealed to this committee to conduct public hearings in which the whole subject of grazing fees should be discussed upon its merits by all interested parties before any change should be decided upon. In response to these urgent requests, the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, by resolution, asked the Department of the Interior to defer its action until the committee had an opportunity to make a thorough study of the subject. To this, the Secretary of the Interior reluctantly assented. During 1945 this committee conducted an extensive series of hearings on the subject in Washington, D. C., and in eight of the States in which the grazing districts are located.

In these hearings the Director of Grazing explained his reasons for insisting upon increasing the grazing fees. His chief reason, at first, was that, subsequent to his base period of 1935-39, the market prices for beef and lambs had advanced 70 per cent. From this, and his general knowledge, he concluded that the livestock industry had been "fairly well stabilized," and that "for several years the industry had enjoyed a fair degree of prosperity." He "thought" that the industry could afford to pay the higher fees. He had not considered the net profit position of the livestock industry because that was "too difficult to determine." He had made no study of his own. He relied upon the record of market prices for livestock, the results of the range-appraisal study of 1941, and some fragmentary data obtained from the Farm Credit Administration upon which he placed his own interpretation. He admitted, under questioning, that in his discussions with the Appropriations Committees of the Congress and with the Bureau of the Budget he had not considered the ability of the grazing district users to pay the higher fees and survive under the conditions prescribed for these permittees by the law and by the regulations of the Grazing Service itself. Finally, he admitted, under close questioning, that his formula for increasing the fees was, to a considerable extent, just "pulled out of the air."

In the many hearings before this committee it was developed, through an overwhelming mass of evidence, that in each year subsequent to 1941 and 1942 the increases in the operating costs of the livestock industry in the range states have progressively outrun the advances in the market prices for the products sold. The livestock men readily conceded that in 1941 and 1942 the industry was in a satisfactory profit position. Those were the years when the range-appraisal study was completed and the increase in fees was deferred because of the many uncertainties and difficulties facing the industry. In the succeeding years the prices of livestock and its products have been "stabilized" under price ceilings, but there has been no stability or restriction or limit to the advances in the operating costs of the industry. It was brought out that in the period from 1940 to 1944, according to the Department of Agriculture statistics, the wages paid for ranch and farm labor had increased more than 200 per cent, the prices of purchased feeds had more than doubled, and the other operating costs had increased proportionately.

Furthermore, the advance in the prices

The National Wool Grower

of livestock from the open-range areas have by no means kept pace with the prices of the finished animals sold in the marketing centers.

The result of the increasing disparity between livestock market prices and the ranchers' operating costs has been to place the range livestock producers in a less and less favorable net-earnings position. A study of production costs in the sheep industry of the western states by the United States Tariff Commission for the 5 years 1940 to 1944, disclosed that the highest net earnings were attained in 1942, when the profit was \$1.14 per head of sheep. The following year there was a net operating deficit of \$0.12 per head; and in 1944 the net loss was \$1.22 per head.

These operating losses are causing a drastic liquidation in the sheep-producing industry, particularly in the western range states. The peak in the sheep population was reached in 1942, and each year since that date has brought a further decline in the number of sheep on farms and ranches. The numbers of stock sheep on farms and ranches have decreased 24.7 per cent in all states between January 1, 1942, and January 1, 1946. In the 11 western range states the decrease has been 28.8 per cent. In Oregon the sheep population has declined 44.1 per cent, and in Washington, Idaho, and Montana the losses in numbers have been 40.0, 39.1, and 35.4 per cent, respectively. There is reason to believe that in the grazing-district regions of these states, where the unit production costs are relatively high, the liquidation in the sheep industry has been even more drastic than is disclosed by these state averages. Liquidation does not flow from a profit position.

Some sheep producers who can are shifting to cattle, not because the range cattle industry is in a profit status but because they feel that at the present time there is a better chance to survive with cattle than with sheep. Many of the sheepmen are not so equipped that it is possible for them to make this shift. The range-livestock man cannot suspend his operations during an unfavorable period, and renew them at a later time. He must use his permit to graze upon the public range, or incur a high risk of losing it, with no possibility of regaining it in the future. He would then be out of business and a means of livelihood, and with it would go much or all of his heavy investments in privately owned ranch and range properties, which are unsuited for other uses.

The difficulties and uncertainties facing the range livestock industry since 1942 have steadily increased, not decreased. This is not the proper or opportune time to impose still heavier costs upon a distressed industry.

The only cost study that the Grazing Service has ever made, was the range appraisal of 1941, covering the 5-year base period, 1935 to 1939. In that study the Grazing Service found that when the operating costs, including taxes, lease costs, and 4 per cent interest upon the investment in owned ranch and range properties, were deducted from the gross ranch income, the ranchers had no income left from which to pay any grazing fees at all on either the national forests or the grazing-district lands. The remainder was a minus quantity.

In his every appearance before the committees of the Congress, the Director of Grazing has emphasized as his most telling argument for higher grazing fees a so-called comparison of these fees with the prices paid in commercial leases for privately owned and State lands. It is his contention that

(Continued on page 40)

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keep informed



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The Auxiliaries

Utah's Activities

REPORTS coming in from the Utah Auxiliary show this group to be growing by leaps and bounds. Mrs. Marvel Murdock of Heber City, Utah, recently elected president of the state auxiliary, has sent in the list of officers of several new chapters and the new officers of some of the older chapters.

Provo, one of the newly formed groups, has the following officers for the coming year: Mrs. Ruel Jacobson, 243 E. 5th South, Provo, president; Mrs. George Collard, vice president; Mrs. Orrin Jackson, secretary-treasurer.

Cedar City has also recently organized with the following officers in charge: Mrs. John Beal, president; Mrs. Frank Thorley, vice president; Mrs. Parson Webster, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. Erastus Jones, wool promotion chairwoman; Mrs. Will L. Jones, meat promotion chairwoman; Mrs. M. I. Higby, magazine publicity and historian; Mrs. Kimball Jenson, constitution and by-laws.

Ephraim chapter will begin its work with the following at the helm: Mrs. Ruel Christensen, president; Mrs. F. R. Christensen, 1st vice president; Mrs. Sherman Mortensen, 2nd vice president; Mrs. K. Olsen, secretary and treasurer.

Another new chapter, Manti, has chosen the following ladies for its leaders: Mrs. Edna M. Allred, 95 East 4th North, president; Mrs. Hazel Barton, vice president; Mrs. Leah Hall, secretary-treasurer.

Elections have recently been held in several of the other chapters with the following results: For the American Fork Chapter, Mrs. Marion Christensen has been named president; Mrs. Hannah Ashby, vice president; Mrs. Della Smith, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. Rowena Doane, meat promotion chairwoman; Mrs. Hannah Ashby, wool promotion chairwoman; and Mrs. Grace Chipman, publicity chairwoman.

The Teasdale Chapter reports the following new officers elected: Mrs. Edmond King, president; Mrs. Bessie Brinkerhoff, Bicknell, vice president; Mrs. Geo. Coombs, Teasdale, secretary;

Mrs. W. D. Brinkerhoff, Bicknell, treasurer.

The Vernal Chapter, to be called the Ashley Wool Growers Auxiliary, has elected the following for the coming season: Mrs. Roy Showalter, president; Mrs. Harold Reader, vice president; Mrs. Geo. Davis, secretary and treasurer.

Salt Lake City has also elected new

officers to its auxiliary. They are: Mrs. Emory Smith, 1835 Yalecrest Avenue, president; Mrs. E. Jay Kearns, vice president; Mrs. David G. Smith, secretary; Mrs. Alice G. Smith, treasurer; Mrs. Dan L. Capener, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Nellie Oswald, auditor.

That all these groups are interested in auxiliary work and putting forth every effort to promote wool and lamb is evidenced by various letters received by your correspondent. Bernice S. Linford, home agent for the Agricultural College, reports, "The Auxiliary is doing some very fine work here on the use of lamb fat in cookery. I am finding the work of lamb and wool most interesting."

Year's Program Suggested

THE State Program Committee consisting of Mrs. Jay Kearns, Mrs. Lucy Seely and Mrs. Nellie Oswald have prepared a suggested program and sent it to all chapters to aid them in planning their year's work. Three topics are given for each month and in addition it is suggested that five minutes of each meeting be devoted to current events pertaining to wool or lamb, and also that a tribute to the flag be given.

September	a. School Health b. International Problems c. Public Safety—Traffic Problems
October	a. Lecture or talk on the sheep industry (tax problems, tariff, etc.) b. Harvest and Centennial c. Lecture on Utah Artists
November	a. Thanksgiving Day (Traditions, History, Etc.) b. Book Review c. Mental Ills
December	a. Christmas Program b. The Life of some Composer and Music. c. Legislative Problems
January	State Convention
February	a. Cancer Program (Local Physician) b. Goiter (Local Physician) c. Wool and Its Care—Making and cleaning, Etc.
March	a. Better Books for Reading b. Handicraft, Display and Lecture or lessons. c. Musical or Art Lecture or Program
April	a. Beautiful Gardens — Trees and Flowers b. Centennial Program c. Interior Decoration—The Home Beautiful.
May	Mrs. Marvel Murdock, President



Miss Virginia Barton of Manti, Utah, modeling an all-wool suit of her own tailoring at the Snow College Fashion Show.

The Ashley Chapter

THE Ashley Chapter met on February 27 at the home of Mrs. H. A. Tyzack, with Mrs. J. H. Reader as assisting hostess and seventeen members present. Mrs. Reader, chairman of the committee on the new constitution and by-laws, read a copy of the state auxiliary's constitution. It was decided to use it as a general form.

Mrs. B. H. Stringham gave a report of the auxiliary activities of the state and national conventions. Some of the ladies had bought wool crocheted hats at the convention from the Idaho delegation. So many of our members wished to make these it was planned to spend the time at the next meeting crocheting hats.

On March 30 the Ashley group met at the home of Mrs. Hugh Seeley with Mrs. George Davis as the assisting hostess. The regular routine of business was conducted by Mrs. Seeley. The new constitution and by-laws were read by Mrs. Harold Reader, passed on, and adopted. It is to be called Auxiliary to Ashley Woolgrowers, as our national forest is so called after John Ashley, one of the first settlers. The Nominating Committee called for nominations from the floor as a change from the usual procedure and the officers listed above were elected.

Mrs. D. A. Seeley and Mrs. Owen Jones were appointed to make arrangements for a cooking and wool demonstration recently held at the high school. Lamb cookery was featured and a film was shown.

Mrs. Briant S. Stringham
Correspondent

Ephraim Chapter

A WOOL fashion show and program was sponsored by the Ephraim Chapter recently. It included the modeling of woolen apparel by members of the Snow College Domestic Art Department under direction of Mrs. Alta Gassman. Discussions brought out that the clothes were not only beautiful but were very economical, having cost the girls only a fraction of the prices usually paid for such outfitts.

Evan C. Erickson gave an interesting report on the wool situation, surpluses, etc., as brought out in recent conventions and in news reports. Phyllis Madson, Bly Beal and LaVerne Johnson sang "Amaryllis," accompanied by Aramada B. Cox.

A project to sponsor the use of more woolen goods was discussed and it was decided that each member of the auxiliary should give one dollar for a fund to be used for prizes in the local schools. The aim is to pay for the cloth used in making the best woolen outfit by a junior high school girl and by a girl at Snow College.

Another recent event of special interest to women of this community was the Snow College Third Annual Institute of Community Living, which among other things, featured a fashion show by girls of the clothing and textile classes under the leadership of Mrs.

Alta Gassman. Over two hundred women were in attendance to view the many clothes the girls had made, including twelve beautiful wool outfits, suits and dresses and in addition, several wool skirts. Next year at the Institute, the auxiliary is going to give wool yardage to the best wool outfit. The preceding picture shows Virginia Barton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alden Barton of Manti, modeling a very lovely bluish-green all-wool suit she made and modeled in the fashion show. Miss Barton attends Snow College.

Mrs. Ruel E. Christensen
Ephraim, Utah

Lambing Time In Washington

Mrs. Clell Lung, prominent state and national auxiliary worker of Yakima, Washington, clipped this description of lambing operations in a Washington sheep outfit from the Yakima Herald.

MOTHER Nature is working overtime on Ellis Ragan's Slide ranch, nestled in a canyon close to the Satus hills, Washington. It is lambing time—and there's a wealth of education to be had on this, or any other sheep ranch in the valley, for folks who have always regarded a ewe as a three-letter crossword puzzle answer.

It might even be a mental rehabilitation for those thousands of sailors who ate mutton chops, mutton stew and mutton gravy for months while visiting New Zealand or Australia during the war. Scores of sailors even developed an allergy for woolen sweaters. It seemed to them there was such a thing as just too much sheep.

A casual inspection of fundamentals can't help changing even that feeling. Almost human in her reactions, a ewe at lambing time is a proud mother, jealous, and extremely sensitive. Some lambs, for example, are given to a ewe who is not their mother—when that ewe's lamb has died or when the original mother has an inadequate milk supply—but the change is not made easily. Before the ewe will adopt the stranger, her own dead lamb's skin must be slipped on the newcomer to give him her own particular scent. There it stays until the lamb has acquired the scent, through feeding and association.

Lambing is a 24-hour operation in a flock the size of Ragan's. With 3300 ewes jamming the pens and sheep maternity being what it is, darkness brings no let-up in the birth rate.

Fourteen men who make up the crew are essentially combination veterinarians, farm hands and hard workers. Five of Ragan's men came directly from Spain last year, with a desire to work and possessing an inborn knowledge of sheep. Their names, considerably whittled by Ragan when he talks with them, do not detract from the natural beauty of the sage-covered canyon ranch—Celestino Arozarena, Pedro Azpiroz, Benabe Nuin, Pedro Valencia and Tomas Yrialte.

The crew of clever sheep dogs far outnumber the men. There may not be a thoroughbred in the lot, but the smartest field trial dogs in the country must take a back seat when it comes to speaking the language of a flock of sheep.

No idle worker, either, is the cook, Mrs. Jack Dyson. She comes from White Swan each year to boss the galley. Mrs. Dyson explains her annual job as being a vacation, with only the musical, motherly baaing of sheep and the friendly barking of dogs to echo from the Satus hills a short few rods away.

Material for this section should be sent to Mrs. Emory C. Smith, Press Correspondent, National Auxiliary, 1835 Yalecrest Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Grazing Fees

(Continued from page 37)

the costs of these leased lands are 2 to 12 times higher than the fees charged for "comparable" public lands in the grazing districts. His conclusions and data are derived from the range-appraisal study of 1941. In the report of that study it was announced that the most important finding was the "startling data as to the commercial lease costs of an animal unit month" of feed. The finding was "startling" only because it was not a fair or honest comparison in any sense of the term. It was an attempt to compare dissimilar things.

An examination of the original records upon which the Director's finding and conclusion are based discloses that in the vast majority of cases the commercial leases represented improved properties, strategically located, and including that all-important and costly essential in the range country—water sources; water not only for use on the privately owned lands, but on the surrounding public lands as well. Most of these leased properties were fenced; some of them were home ranches, including hay and crop lands; many of them were especially valuable high summer ranges and lambing grounds; many of them were so located that they had a nuisance value for which the rancher was virtually compelled to pay in order to keep his ranch set-up intact. Practically all of these properties were base properties, which both the Taylor Grazing Act and the regulations of the Grazing Service require the rancher to control before he can qualify for a permit upon the public range.

It is clear that only a fraction of these lease costs tabulated by the Grazing Service represented payments for forage values, and that forage, in most instances, was of higher quality and quantity than that furnished on the public range. The bulk of these lease costs were payments for these other values enumerated. These facts are disclosed by the original records in the files of the Grazing Service. They were known to the authors of the Report on Range Appraisal, and they should have been known by the Director of Grazing. And yet the Director has repeatedly told the committee of Congress that this was a comparison of lands "comparable" with the public range.

On the other hand, the remaining public lands in the grazing districts are the poorest and least valuable lands in the country. They are the remnants, the left-overs from more than 80 years of acquisition under the homestead and other public-land laws. They are the dry lands to which no one could afford to acquire ownership under any of the public-land laws. These are the winter grazing lands. On them, the livestock generally lose some of the weight gained while grazing on other lands at other times of the year, in spite of the common practice of feeding the livestock on purchased supplementary feeds while grazing on the public lands. Although these public lands are low in forage values, they are huge in total extent. They furnish the seasonal grazing essential to round out the livestock operations on the privately owned ranch and range lands dependent upon them. These two classes of lands are interdependent. Without the use of the public lands, the private lands in the grazing district areas would be incomplete, uneconomic. Likewise, these public lands generally would be unusable without the water and other facilities supplied from the private lands.

In any comparison of the grazing fees

with costs on nonpublic ranges, due consideration must be given to the higher costs and heavier losses encountered in running livestock, particularly cattle, on the open unfenced range. But very little of the public range is enclosed, except where the enclosure fences have been constructed and are maintained by the permittees themselves, at their own expense. Many livestock men believe that this factor alone more than counter-balances any differences that may exist between the grazing fees and the costs of leases on privately owned and state lands. Especially do they think this is true when further allowance is made for the added costs and the annoyance imposed by the restrictive regulations and the administration by the Grazing Service. They prefer, and find it more profitable, to pay the costs of these leases, when the private and State lands are available.

Since the close of the series of hearings before this committee, the Director of Grazing apparently has abandoned some of his former reasons in support of higher fees. Under date of January 25, 1946 he informed this committee, through the Secretary of the Interior, that he now thinks that "ultimately a substantial increase in the grazing fees would not be unreasonable" because

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of, (1) the "wide disparity" between the grazing fees and the "prices being paid for the rental of comparable state and privately owned range land," and (2) "the values of grazing privileges on the public land, commonly recognized in the sale and lease of range properties that are qualified to receive grazing permits."

The Director now proposes to defer further action to increase grazing fees until 6 months after the discontinuance of the subsidies currently being paid for the production of beef cattle, sheep, and lambs. The lifting of these payments will indicate to him that the emergency confronting the range livestock industry will have passed.

The first of these two considerations has been dealt with. The second refers to the bonuses said to be commonly involved when privately owned base properties change hands. The Director has told this committee that these so-called bonuses commonly amount to \$5 to \$6 per animal unit month of grazing privilege upon the public lands, attached to these base properties. However, when asked by the committee to furnish specific instances of the payment of such bonuses, based upon concrete evidence in the possession of the Grazing Service, he was unable to do so. He was forced to admit, under questioning, that his information with respect to such bonuses consisted of "only hearsay." Other witnesses challenged the Director's statement concerning these bonuses, with the contention that whenever the bonuses are paid very special conditions will be found to be present; and that, therefore, the Director's generalization is not warranted.

When the National Advisory Board Council was confronted with the Director's proposal to treble the grazing fees, in November 1944, it took the position that—

Any fee finally fixed must be based on a direct relation to the reasonable cost of administering the public lands for grazing purposes only and nothing more. Until the facts as to the cost of administration, together with the necessity therefor and their relation to grazing are determined, no one can fix a reasonable fee as provided in the act.

The council then proposed:

(a) That the study of cost of administration of grazing lands for grazing purposes only be completed and presented to this council.

(b) We agree when such a report is available to and approved by the council to assist in fixing a reasonable fee as provided in the Taylor Grazing Act based upon the fair and reasonable cost of administering the public domain for grazing purposes only but nothing more.

(c) We recommend that by amendment to the Taylor Grazing Act, it provide that fees paid by grazing users of the grazing district be used for administration.

(d) We agree that with such provisions in the act, grazing users will finance and maintain improvements desired by them.

The position taken by the National Council in 1944 was reaffirmed at its meeting with the Grazing Service in December 1945. It has been widely endorsed by range livestock men and their associations, including the National Wool Growers Association. It is worthy of the most careful consideration by the Congress, as well as by the Grazing Service.

The implementing of these recommendations would involve an amendment to the Taylor Grazing Act to remove therefrom or modify the provisions with respect to the 50- and 25-per cent funds.

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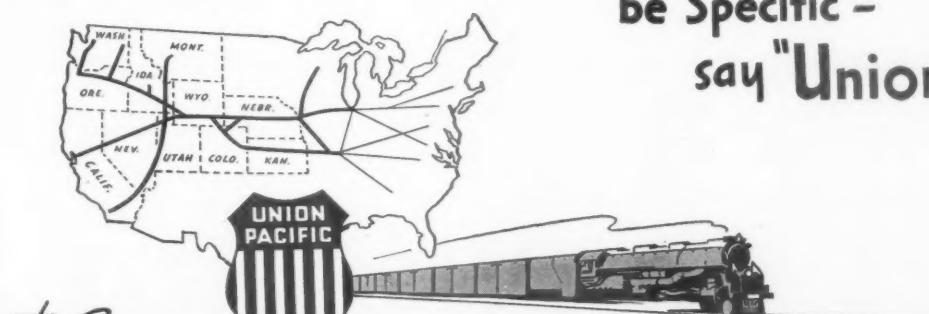
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